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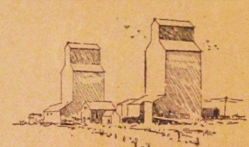
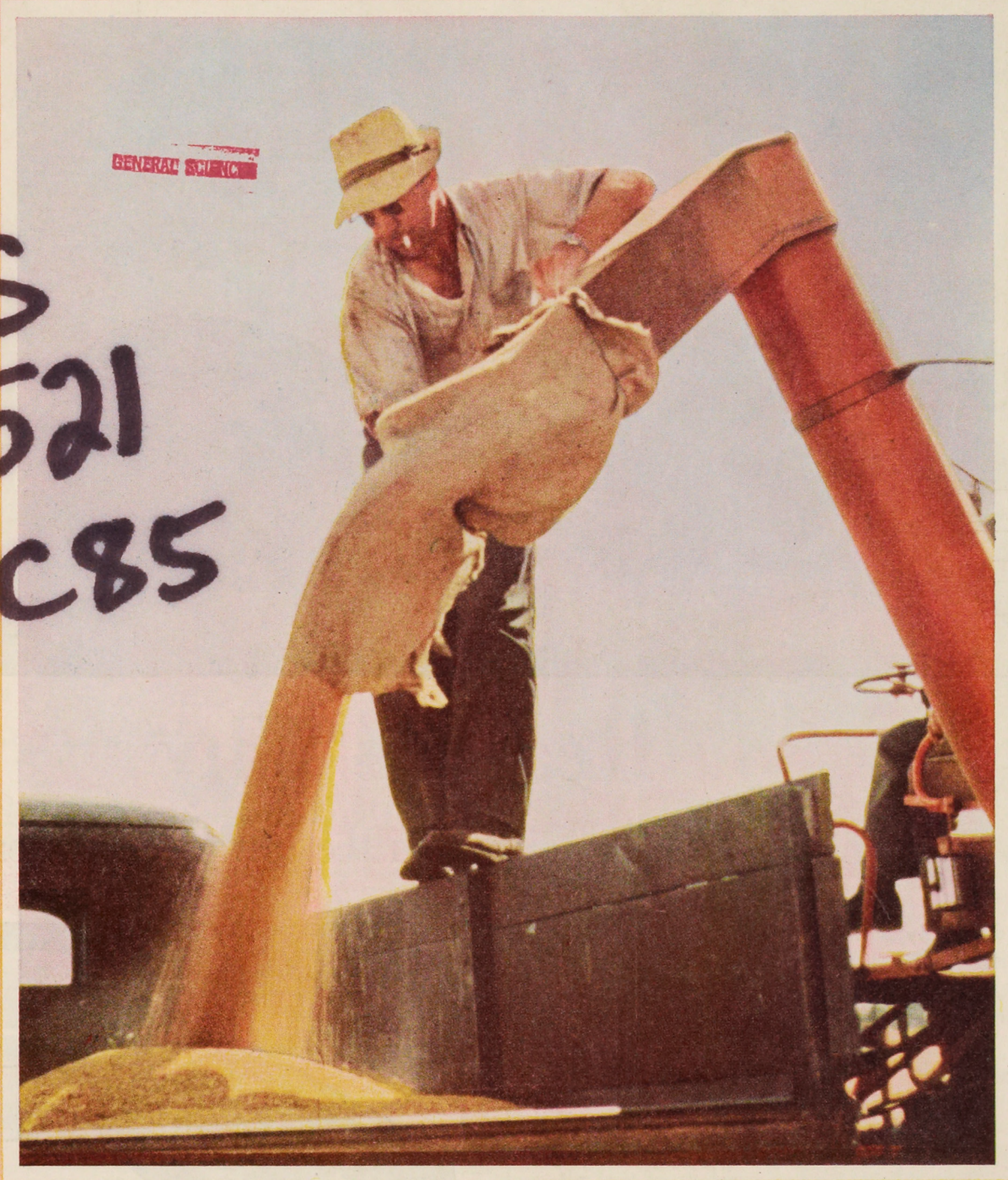
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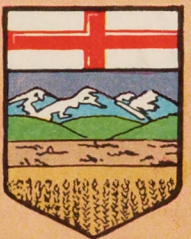


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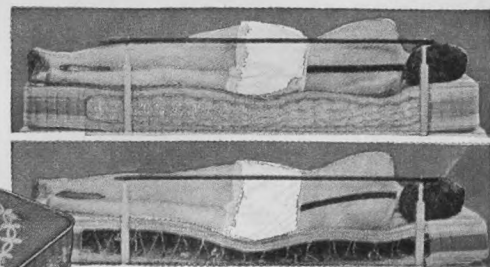
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THE *Country* GUIDE

From Cover to Cover
SEPTEMBER, 1955

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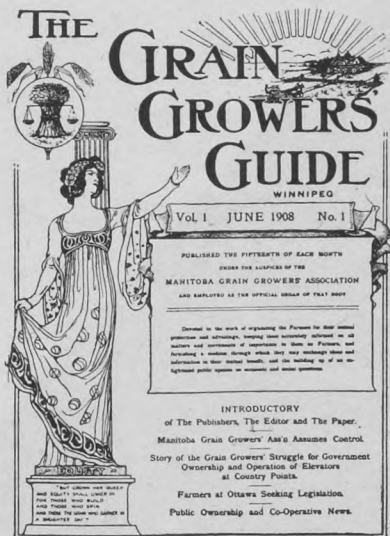
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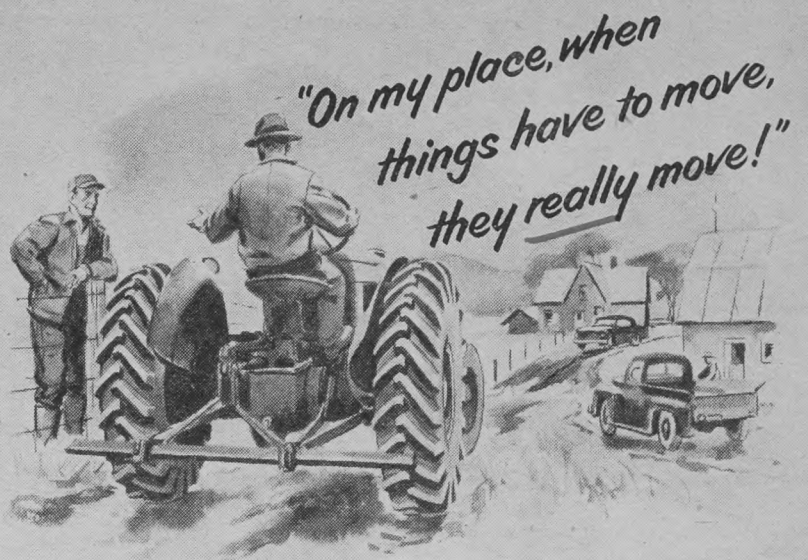
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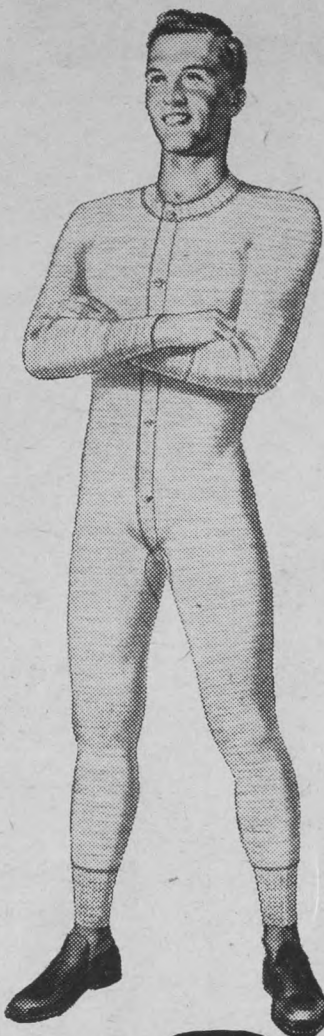
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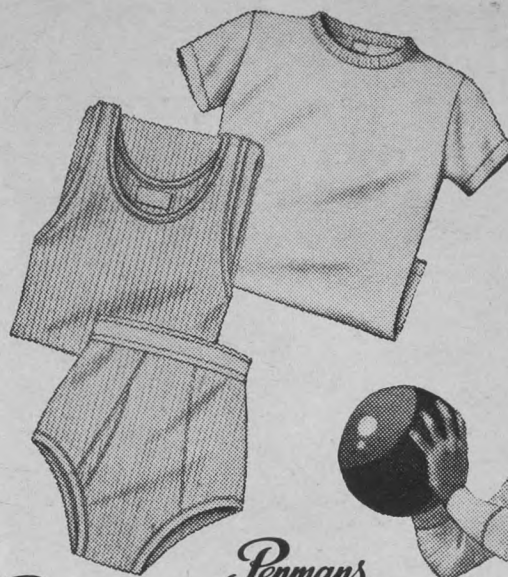


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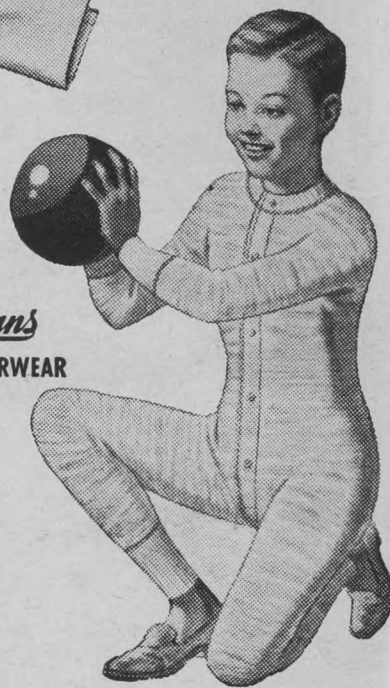


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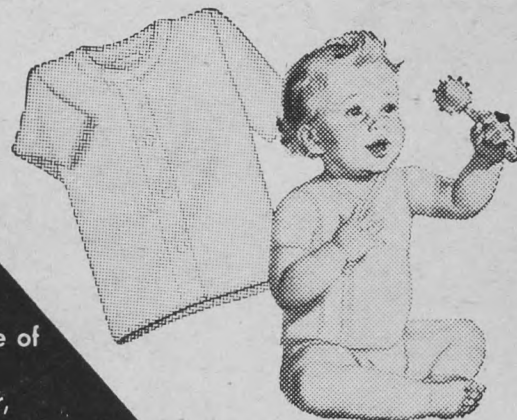
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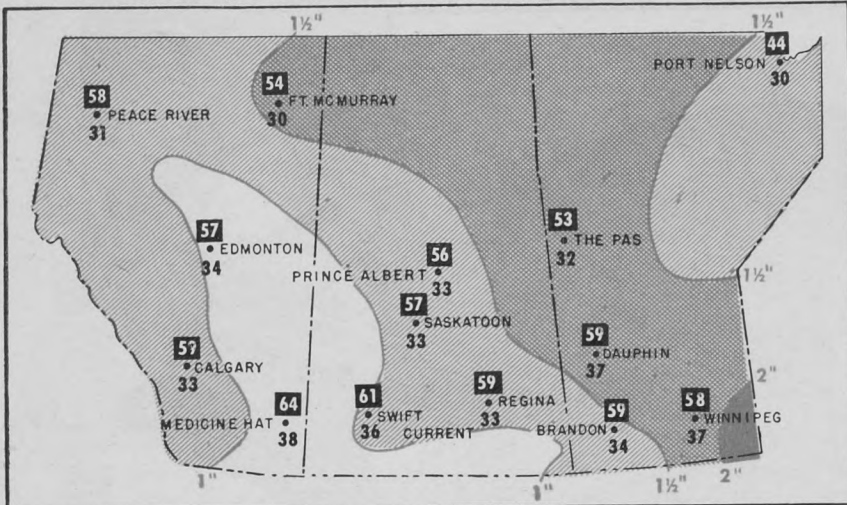
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Prairie Weather

Prepared by DR. IRVING P. KRICK and Staff
for

THE *Country* GUIDE

(Allow a day or two either way in using this forecast. It should be 75 per cent right for your area, but not necessarily for your farm.—ed.)



AVERAGE WEATHER SEPTEMBER 15-OCTOBER 15

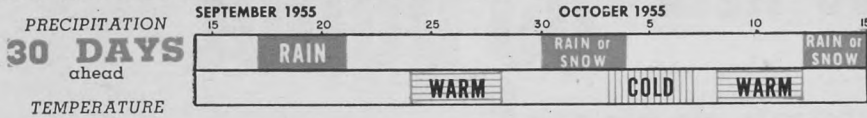
KEY: TEMPERATURE 71 Max. 27 Min. PRECIPITATION Average Inches During Period

Alberta

Temperatures from mid-September to mid-October will approximate the seasonal average in Alberta. The first week of October will be quite cold, with maximum readings generally in the forties and minimum approaching 20 degrees. Intervening periods of relatively mild weather, however, will sustain growth of forage grasses. Frosts will facilitate harvest of potatoes through desiccation of tops. Rain and snowfall will be moderately above

normal in the south, trending to below normal in the Peace River district. Snow cover will not persist, hence, field activities will experience no delays of consequence. Small grain harvest should advance materially, with only remnants left at the end of the period. Normal progress is expected with the beet harvest.

Relatively dry weather prevailed at this time last year, enhancing harvest of small grains. Temperatures averaged somewhat below normal. V

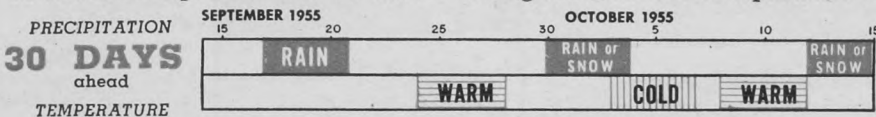


Saskatchewan

Cool and relatively wet weather will prevail in Saskatchewan through mid-October, with temperatures a degree or two below normal. Coldest weather will be experienced in early October, with minimum readings of about 20 in the south and 15 in the north. Relatively mild weather will both precede and follow the cold snap. Pastures and ranges will continue to provide ample forage for livestock. Precipitation will be mod-

estly above average and will occur primarily as rain. However, some snow is expected at most stations. Snow cover should not persist; hence considerable progress should be made in harvesting late-maturing crops. Although initially quite cold, weather for the fall livestock sale at Moose Jaw is expected to be favorable.

Rather cold weather prevailed in the province last year, indeed, very cold in late September and early October. Rainfall was about normal during the latter half of September. V

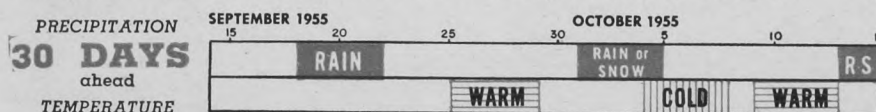


Manitoba

Typical early fall weather is in prospect for Manitoba. Temperatures will average one or two degrees below normal, but only one period of really cold weather is likely. Lowest temperatures are expected during the first week of October and minimums of 20 to 25 degrees will be characteristic. Relatively mild weather will prevail prior to, and immediately following, the cold snap. Maximum readings in the sixties will be prevalent. Precipitation will approximate the average in the south. Northern Manitoba will be

comparatively dry. Some snow is anticipated during the stormy interval in early October and, again, about mid-month. Accumulation should be almost nil and satisfactory progress is expected in harvest of corn, sugar beets, potatoes and small grains. Frosts will terminate the season for tender vegetable crops. Fall grains and forage crops will continue to make favorable growth. Supplementary feed requirements should be light.

Rainfall was rather heavy during the latter half of September last year, with dry weather in October. V



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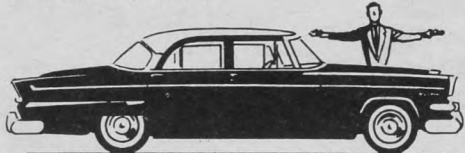




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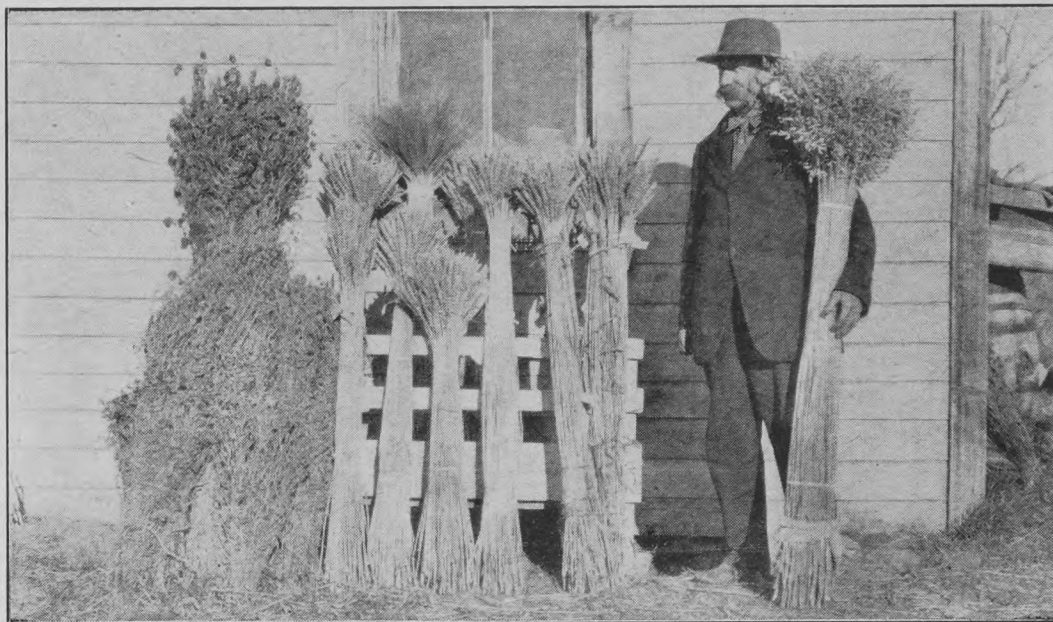
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Machines and Production

1905-1955

ONE of the most significant facts about agriculture is the extreme time lag between the adoption and use of a particular method or practice, and its abandonment for some more efficient method. Between the use of a forked stick for cultivating the fields of Egypt in the time of the Pharaohs, and the general use of animal power in farming on this continent, was about 7,850 years. In a period of a single century since that time, the horse has achieved its heyday and has virtually disappeared as a source of farm power on commercial farms, but oxen are still used in parts of Canada, more than 60 years after the first working model of a gasoline traction engine was produced.



Dr. Seager Wheeler, of Rosthern, Sask., before 1919, had won four world championships with Marquis wheat, one with Kitchener, a 1911 Marquis mutation, and a sweepstakes with Red Bobs.

A mosaic word picture of farm progress during the lifetime of two western Canadian provinces

The decade between 1901 and 1910 was a period of great expansion in the prairie provinces, as compared with the particularly disappointing decade that preceded it. In 1901, the

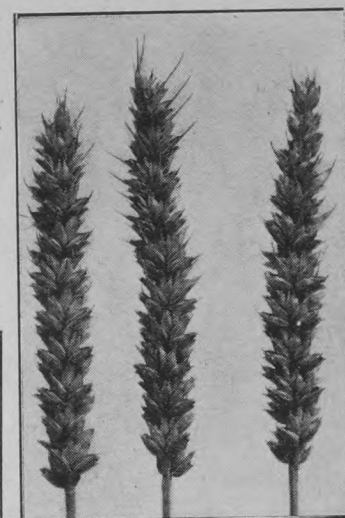
combined populations of what were to be Saskatchewan and Alberta amounted to about two-thirds that of Manitoba, whereas by 1911 their combined populations were nearly



Early work by the University of Alberta on grey-wooded soils at Breton, proved the value of commercial fertilizer and improved knowledge of soils.



A field of CT186 (Selkirk) growing for increase at the Experimental Farm, Indian Head, in 1953. This variety is resistant to Race 15B.



Selected heads of Marquis introduced in 1907.

by
H. S.
FRY

double that of Manitoba. There were 285,664 homestead entries during this period, of which about two-thirds were registered by Canadians, Americans and British. By 1911, there were 199,203 farms in the three provinces, worth on the average \$9,000, including land, buildings, machinery and livestock. The price of wheat during the decade ranged from 75 cents to \$1.09, and averaged 13 cents higher than for the 1891-1900 period.

There were several reasons for the prosperity of this decade. It was a period of railway building, which was responsible for the expenditure of much money in the area. There was also a growing foreign market, plus the fact that in total, the immigrants also brought a very large sum of money into the country. The annual rainfall was appreciably greater than in the previous decade; and in addition, the acreage seeded on fallow, increased from 352,000 acres in 1905 to 1,824,000 acres in 1911, which stepped up yields still further.

THE practice of summerfallowing had been adopted on the large Bell Farm, at Indian Head, as early as 1885. In 1889, after a very difficult year, Angus MacKay, the superintendent of the new Experimental Farm at Indian Head, said in his annual report: "Our seasons point to only one way in which we can in all years expect to reap something . . . at present I submit that fallowing the land is the best preparation to ensure a crop." Succeeding years continued to verify this opinion. Thus, the new provinces not only were born in a period of great expansion, but many of the land speculators had been squeezed out by constantly recurring drought in the 1890's, leaving a higher percentage of landholders who were prepared to apply crop knowledge intelligently.

Time and the economists were to prove that of the 30 years between the turn of the century and the beginning of the hungry thirties, the ten years 1906-15, immediately following the formation of the two provinces, were the most profitable. Studies made by the University of Saskatchewan (Please turn to page 47)

When the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta were carved out of The North-West Territories in September, 1905, the ox team and the 20-ton, 10- to 12-bottom, steam traction outfit could probably have been found many times working on adjoining farms. In 1905, the word "tractor" had not yet come into use (1906-07); the first steel thresher was only a year old; and the rod weeder five years away. The first combined harvester and thresher to come into use in the prairie provinces was about 15 years away, though the first machine to be built for this purpose was in Michigan, in 1836, one year before the steel plow was manufactured, to open up the vast central plains of the continent to food production. Strangely enough, the factory production of these early ponderous machines, which were drawn by a score or more of horses, or oxen, did not begin until about 1880, and on the Pacific Coast.

IN 1955, it is reasonable to suggest that by 1960 the number of persons supported by one farm worker will have doubled twice since 1840. The U.S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, in 1950, reported that in 1840 one farm worker supported 4.49 persons. By 1900, this number had increased to 8.05 persons, and by 1949 to 15.3 persons. In 1830, the U.S. Government estimated that it took 57.7 hours of labor to produce an acre of wheat, or 20 bushels. This meant two hours and 52 minutes per bushel. By 1896 it required 8.8 hours for 20 bushels of wheat, or 26 minutes per bushel. By 1949, on the Great Plains, 1.82 hours were required for 20 bushels, or 5.4 minutes per bushel. Tractors, in 1944, were credited with saving U.S. farmers 1.7 billion man-hours of work during the year, or an amount equivalent to 85 working days. In the first half of this century there were only eight years during which no significant major milestone was reached in farm mechanization.

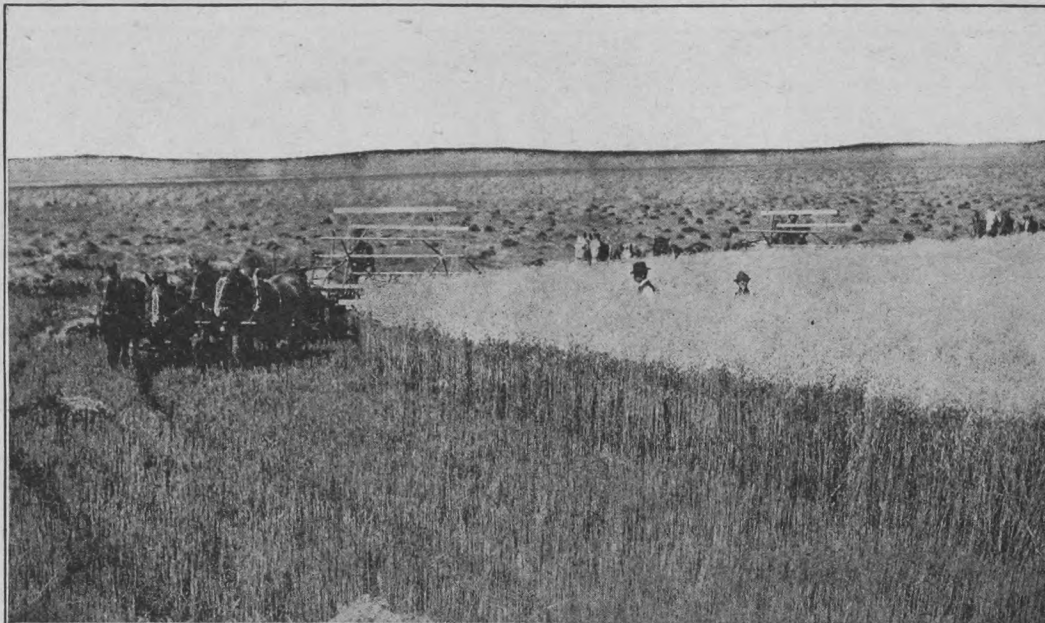
The Friends Colony

BACK in the early 1900's, it was pretty hard for a young man with a family to get along in parts of Ontario, and hope that things would be much better in the future. In 1904, when a "Friends" minister was recruiting men to homestead in the Friends Colony about 150 miles west of Saskatoon, my father and a life-long friend decided to go. Neither, of course, knew that the part of the great North-West Territories to which they had decided to move, would be included in what, the following year, would become the Province of Saskatchewan.

The Friends minister filed on homesteads for the members of the colony, by proxy. This meant that the homesteader did not see his quarter-section of land until he arrived. Despite this circumstance, I cannot remember any one of them who was not satisfied with the choice made for him. Of course it was, and still is, one of the finest farming districts of the West. It is very level and unbroken by big hills and ravines. Its worst drawbacks were that it was treeless and had no streams. This meant that wood for fuel had to be hauled from 25 to 35 miles, and wells dug as soon as possible. There were sloughs in the district, both large and small, some of which held water for most of the year. In the winter, however, the ice was so thick that it was next to impossible to cut through it.

MY father's family consisted of three sons and two daughters, the eldest a boy of fourteen and the youngest a girl of two years. The family of father's friend, Mr. Campbell, consisted of two sons and four daughters, the eldest a girl of 17, and the youngest a baby girl in arms.

By the spring of 1905, when the two families were to leave for the



Crop of Banner oats, 1915, on the Noble Farms Ltd. Note height, density and heading of crop. The three horse-drawn binders mark the supremacy of the horse in this early period in the West.

Here is a vivid, realistic story of early Saskatchewan homesteading days. Seldom are such stories as well told as this one, by

GORDON WALLACE

promised land, there were two others to come with us. My uncle, an elderly man with long grey whiskers, and a young Englishman just old enough to homestead. My father and Mr. Campbell each had a car of settlers' effects, which consisted, first, of lumber in the bottom of the cars, with which to build their houses. Each had four horses, two cows, some hens, and, of course, a dog. Between them they had two walking plows, two wagons, two bob sleighs, one mowing machine, and a hay rake.

Each car could have one man to look after the stock, but anyone else riding in it was treated as a "hobo." My uncle was to be in charge of Dad's car, with my brother along as a hobo. Mr. Campbell went with his car and had his oldest son as a hobo. The young English lad was hidden, first in one car, and then the other. The boys

were never picked up, yet they were sure the brakeman knew that they were there all the time. Many other young men who came West during this period travelled in the same way.

Dad and his charges—the families—did not leave Grey County, Ontario, until three or four days after the carloads of settlers' effects had gone. They were five days reaching North Battleford on the colonist train, but still arrived five days before Mr. Campbell got there with his charges. I remember Dad saying that he had two women, nine kids and 23 pieces of luggage to look after.

Our settlers' effects included all necessities, such as flour, sugar, clothing and tools, sufficient to carry on for some time. Likewise, it was necessary to carry enough food with each half of the party, to last for the entire trip. I remember that part of the food that

went in the cars was a 15-gallon milk can full of lemon biscuits, most of which we kids ate after the cars arrived at Battleford. Also, I had a favorite aunt, who, knowing that I was fond of duck eggs, had hard-boiled a lot of them for us to eat on the train. Being normal kids, we were not very long in eating them, and not much longer in getting sick.

There were others on the train who were also headed for the same district. One of these was an elderly bachelor who had the agency for a chocolate-coated pill that was supposed to cure everything but homesickness. He was nicknamed Doc, and was always called that afterwards, by the rest of the

homesteaders.

OURS was the first train to arrive in North Battleford. It was in June and about two o'clock in the morning. It was also cold, and everything was covered with dew that seemed like frost. We were supposed to have been met by the immigration officer, whose business it was to meet all colonist trains and see that the people were supplied with tents, if they had none of their own with them. We were not so fortunate. We were told to get off the train at once, but there were no tents for us. Our own, of course, were in the cars that had not yet arrived. The tents supplied by the government for the immigrants were being used by some workers who were building a hotel. Dad thought they were being used for the wrong purpose, and, having his own share of temper, put the official through the third degree. The result was that we were allowed to spend the rest of the night in the train, and tents were available for us early the next day. Our camping place in North Battleford was where the city post office now stands.



These big steam ten-plow outfits were supreme in the business of turning over prairie sod. This less-than-perfect job was under way near Weyburn.



This four-ox team was photographed in 1912 on the farm of A. J. Pearson, Lucky Lake, Sask., whose pleased expression was justified by a good outfit.

The first job after the arrival of our goods and chattels was to cross to Battleford, since the colony to which we were going was about 45 miles southwest. It is only two or three miles to the river, but the men were fortunate if they made more than one trip across each day. There were so many wanting to cross that one might wait in line for hours before his time came to get on the ferry. Often they got in line in the evening and spent the night there, so as not to miss out the next day. Indeed, the line often reached from the ferry landing back to the top of the river hill, which was about a mile.

Battleford to me was a very lively and exciting place. We were camped there for several days, while the effects were being taken over and camp located near the Mounted Police barracks, which is now a western development museum. The Indians galloped up and down the streets, yelling, it seemed to me, for all they were worth. They were quite peaceful and were probably just showing off for the newcomers. All of our goods were piled out in the open, but nothing was molested.

By the time we were ready to make a start for the homestead our party had increased by three more, two of them young men and the third an older man who was thought to be quite wealthy, because he had a homestead and had also bought a section of land in the district. Some of this he had surveyed into town lots, and the town was called Swarthmore.

FINALLY we set out with two wagons, two horse-drawn democrats, four head of cattle and 20 humans. All except the older ones were supposed to take turns walking behind the cattle and persuade them to keep up with the rest of the procession, by means of a willow gad. Nevertheless, as I remember it, it was the young ones who had the most turns.

First we had to ford the Battle River, then head up the hill past what was the Indian school. This, previously, had been the Legislative Building for the North-West Territories and is now St. Thomas College. We followed the old Sounding Lake Trail which ran in a southwesterly direction through the sand hills. This trail, as it happened, passed just south of our homestead. The first night out we camped at the foot of the Eagle Hills, after making about 15 miles. There, mosquitoes descended in clouds, on stock and humans alike, and the men were obliged to make smudges.

The next morning we started early, and stopping just enough for grazing, we reached a bachelor's homestead, on the section containing our homesteads. The bachelor had a very small shack, so our tents were pitched close by, and temporary headquarters set up until proper shelters could be put up on our own places.

According to our mothers, everyone was hungry most of the time. Mother and Mrs. Campbell baked bread every day, on a cook stove set up outside. I can still see and smell those golden-brown loaves, as large as buckets. I have yet to taste anything half as good, and with only butter on it. The cows, after the long train trip and a little time to get used to the prairie grass, gave us all the milk and butter we could use.

Looking from our tent across that wide expanse of prairie, there was only one cabin that we could see. It belonged to a Scottish family named Stewart. There was a sod shack about three miles away, which a slight rise of land hid from us, where they had dug a good well, from which we got our drinking water for months. As the summer wore on, however, a fresh white dot would spring up somewhere on the prairie from which we knew that another homesteader had pitched his tent. A common greeting in those days was, "What quarter are you on?" This was logical, because all locations were numbered as to section, township, range and meridian.

Finally, the houses were up on our homesteads and we moved into the houses that were to be our homes for a good many years. They were frame inside: later in the summer they were sodded two feet thick on the outside with sweetgrass sod, which was very fibrous. This sod was secured by plowing with a walking plow and cutting the sod into lengths with an axe. It was piled like bricks and the joins were filled by raking each layer with the hoe until the joins were airtight. Many of the homes of those days were made of sod throughout, as were all of the outbuildings, and each such building was referred to as a "soddy."

Mr. Walter, one of the homesteaders in the district, was a Friends minister. He held church services every Sunday afternoon in his soddy. Everyone came for miles around, on foot, on horseback, in lumber wagons, and on stone boats. The seats were merely boards placed on blocks, and sometimes were not very solid. Nearly every homesteader had a dog that followed him everywhere, even to church, and perhaps inside the building. I remember one service that was badly disrupted, when some dogs decided to settle their differences under the seats. Needless to say, the result was utter confusion, because many of the seats were upset when the congregation tried to get out of the way. The church service was also an occasion for the distribution of mail. Any homesteader who happened to be going into Battleford would bring out the mail for all of the district, and take it to church for distribution.

BEFORE winter set in that first fall, however, a Friends church was built by voluntary labor on the Swarthmore townsite. Material was hauled in from Battleford by the neighbors, as they could find the time between their own preparations for the coming winter, their first in the new country. Of course, there was wood to cut and haul home, and prairie hay or "wool" to cut and stack for winter feed. That first fall, too, saw a prairie fire sweep the whole country, leaving unburned only the marsh, as it was called. This area was about 15 miles from home and was the place where all the neighbors went after the fire to put up marsh grass for feed. It was stacked on the marsh and hauled home during the winter. According to the reports, this fire started at the South Saskatchewan River and cleaned off most of the grass on a hundred-mile front, right up to the North Saskatchewan River.

One of the first things to be done, when starting out on a homestead in those early days, was to make

a fireguard. This was done by plowing two rows of furrows several feet apart, and burning the grass in between. The fireguards had to be fairly wide and well out from the buildings, because when a prairie fire was fairly started, it would travel as fast as the wind, and a very tiny spark could ignite the grass. On one occasion, when plowing a fireguard, Mr. Campbell was badly burned. A fire was approaching rapidly and he could not get his team behind the fireguard quickly enough. On another occasion,

a man who thought he was quite a prairie-fire fighter would light "backfires" and leave them for someone else to look after, while he went on starting new backfires before an approaching fire. This time, one of his backfires went too far and burned out his neighbors' place, while the main fire, that he wanted to stop, burned itself out at a deeply rutted trail.

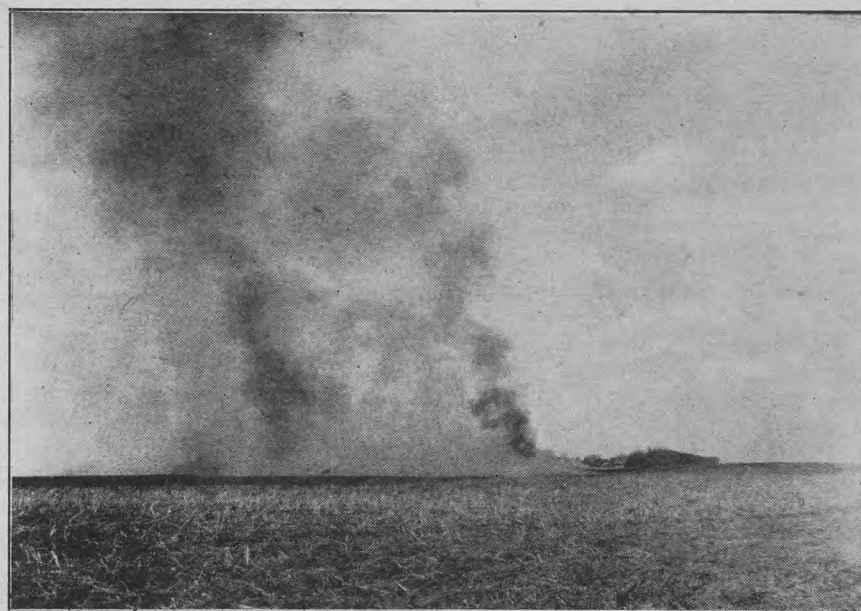
Each fall, Dad, Mr. Campbell, my oldest brother, and my uncle, who now had a team of oxen, would camp

(Please turn to page 52)



[Sask. Govt. Arch. photos]

Farmers delivering grain in bags to a pioneer Regina elevator (Winnipeg Elevator Co.). Left, is a flat warehouse widely used in the early years.



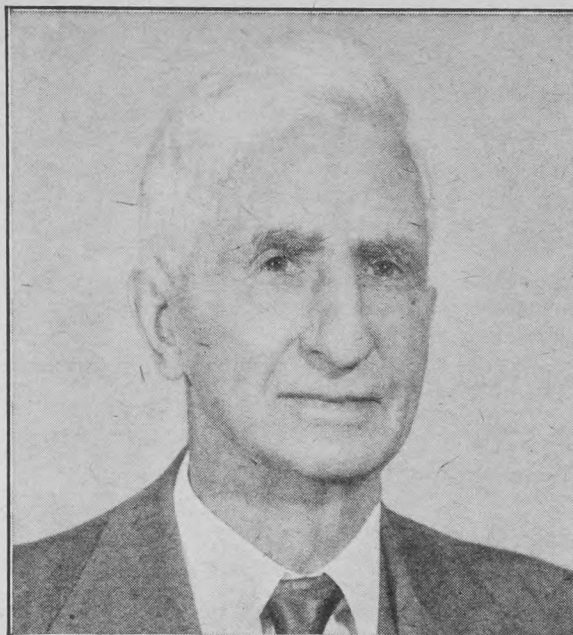
Homesteaders dreaded a prairie fire and fireguards were plowed for protection. Tree distribution for shelterbelt planting (right) began about 1905.



Good example of a homesteader's soddy, or sod house, near Varda, south of Radville. Note the trim walls, sod roof and framed doorway and window.



Bert Hargrave, in addition to many other qualifications, is a graduate in engineering, and president of the the Western Stock Growers' Ass'n.



Tom Hargrave, outstanding ranch manager from 1901 on, was much respected, and died in 1954.



H. J. (Harry) Hargrave can't get away from ranching, and is in charge of Animal Husbandry at the Lethbridge Experimental Station.

The Hargraves of Walsh

TO appreciate the Hargrave Ranch and family, you have to know something of both the history and geography of western Canada. When James Hargrave located the ranch, it was winter-time. Hargrave was wearing snowshoes, and, on the advice of an Indian, was investigating the area, because both his hay and pasture had been destroyed by fire. Consequently, if you happen to be a student of Great Plains climatology, Indian culture, and the economics of land and cattle, you'll enjoy the tale even more. But the kernel of the Hargrave story lies in those forces that maintain family bonds, not merely among members of one generation, but from father to sons, to grandsons and their sons, for over 100 years. These families are rare, because they are self-generating, and they must produce men, in each generation, who possess not only an imperative sense of family tradition, but the ability to maintain and increase the works of their fathers. Such are the Hargraves of southern Alberta.

The family story goes a long way back, but the history of the ranch began in the early fall of 1888. Six years earlier, James Hargrave had left the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company at Portage la Prairie, and joined with his brother-in-law, Dan Sissons, to form a trading company, "Hargrave and Sissons," at Medicine Hat. The new company sold groceries to the Indians and settlers, taking as payment, money, produce and buffalo bones. Dan Sissons loaded the bones on scows and took them down the Saskatchewan River to Carleton Place, where he traded them for cattle, in a sort of "old bones for new" deal. These cattle were brought back to Medicine Hat on the scows. More cattle were added the next year, and in a few years' time James Hargrave was running a sizeable herd, on his holdings just north of the Saskatchewan River.

Then came the hard winter of 1886-87. The history of every ranch is marked by hard winters. Old-timers, when recalling dates, friends they once knew, or even a favorite saddle horse, will invariably say, "That was the year before (or after) the

Three generations of the family have continued to operate one of Alberta's best known ranches

by FRANK JACOBS

hard winter of . . ." This is not strange, for Destiny rode ruthlessly and strong in those years, when little or no feed lay under the drifted snow, and a man's capital—and his hopes and his dreams—might, and frequently did, perish with his herds in the raging blizzards. The winter of 1886-87 would have completely wiped out all of the Hargrave cattle had not feed been obtained from the stables of the Mounted Police at Police Point, a short distance east of the Hargrave homestead.

The next spring the cattle were trailed 15 miles south to Little Plume Creek. Here, James Hargrave saw feed in abundance, and he felt sure that the previous year's near disaster would not recur. That summer the cattle thrived on the thick grass, and stacks of hay were put up for winter feed. Hardly had the mowers stopped clacking, however, when another range hazard, even more dreaded than the blizzards of winter, destroyed the summer's work. A prairie fire swept the range clean and burned every stack of hay.

Snow came early that winter, and James Hargrave realized that he would have to move the cattle quickly to a source of feed. An Indian friend, Little Corn, told him of a good ranch site with abundant feed, water and shelter, between Walsh and Many Island Lake, 40 miles east of Medicine Hat. He at once set out for the new site, covering the whole distance in one day, on snowshoes. He picked a spot for the ranch headquarters, close to where the present ranch house now stands. Soon, his son Tom, who was only 12 years old, Jack MacDonald, a young fellow just out from Ontario, and Little Corn, were trailing the cattle to the new ranch.

THE new ranch prospered, despite more fires and hard winters. James Hargrave and his family remained in Medicine Hat during the winters, while the children—four boys and four girls—attended school. But every summer saw the whole family return to the ranch, almost always accompanied by one or two young college men (usually student ministers) from the East. Many of these young men later achieved prominence, but they often amused the family at the ranch. One of these young apprentices later became Dr. Oliver, moderator of the United Church.

Young Oliver took his duties very seriously. Not only did he carefully write out his Sunday sermons, but he used to ride through the country during the week, literally bringing the Word to whomever he met. Whether it was a sheep herder on a hillside or a homesteader plowing a field, Oliver would stop, read a passage of the Scripture, chat a short while about things spiritual, and, before leaving, ask a prayer. He was not much of a horseman, and James Hargrave usually gave him a very old and very slow, but reliable, horse. Feeling that the Harvest might be garnered more quickly if he had speedier transportation, Oliver asked for a better horse. Hargrave, with some misgivings, gave him a pony which had been raised as a pet. It was very quiet, but like so many animals sub-

(Please turn to page 56)



Built in 1897, the ranch house is the scene of a combined picnic and social, where friends watch and sometimes help, while some calves are branded. A record of generous hospitality is associated with the Hargrave Ranch, and Bert and Amy Hargrave maintain the tradition.



Elevators at Cabri, Sask., provide a typical skyline theme for the anniversary of the "Wheat Province."

Saskatchewan's First Fifty Years

The adaptability, determination, and co-operation of men from many lands wrote the story of Saskatchewan

WRITTEN on the broad face of the land is the story of Saskatchewan's first 50 years, for agriculture is her greatest single enterprise. Its pages are the brown soils of the southwest corner; the dark brown soils which sweep in a wide band toward the southeast, through Unity, Saskatoon, Regina, and Weyburn; the black soils of Lloydminster, North Battleford, and Yorkton; and the cultivated grey-wooded soils on the rim of the great forest area that disappears into the north. It is a saga enscribed by the plow, guided by the horny hands of land-hungry men of many nations, who saw in the great, undeveloped plains a chance of freedom and independence.

For the most part, it is a story of change—of prairie grassland giving way to fields of grain as railway branch lines fingered out from the first continental line,—of the evolution of farm machines, crops, and cropping methods,—of steady improvement in methods of grain handling, stock breeding, and marketing. There are discouraging chapters of drought, hail, crop pests, and disappearing markets, but these are outdone by others which tell of irrigation projects, community pastures, hail insurance, and producer co-operation. In the main, it is a success story—a tribute to the courage, adaptation, and determination of Saskatchewan's people.

Who are these people? In the romantic, earlier days, before Saskatchewan became a province, they were explorers and fur traders, followed later by missionaries, farmers, laborers, business men, and professionals. The dawn of agriculture in the province could well be associated with the Reverend James Nisbet, who founded Prince Albert, and grew 600 bushels of wheat on the Mission farm in 1868, or with those pioneers who formed the Battleford settlement about the same time. Some contend that it began around 1874, when Tom Cavanaugh filed for a homestead near the village of Lebre; others, with the early ranches of the Willow Bunch country and the Cypress Hills.

The most significant movement of settlers, however, came with the extension of the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, from Manitoba into what was then The North-West Territories. For all practical purposes then, it could be said that Saskatchewan's agriculture began with the railroad, and that it developed in conjunction with the spread of railway branch lines. Even as late as 1931, there were very few farming communities located more than 10 miles from a railway line, for only by rail could the products of the land be carried in volume to markets beyond the area of production. Today there are 9,000 miles of rail lines in Saskatchewan, as compared with 1,551 miles in 1905.

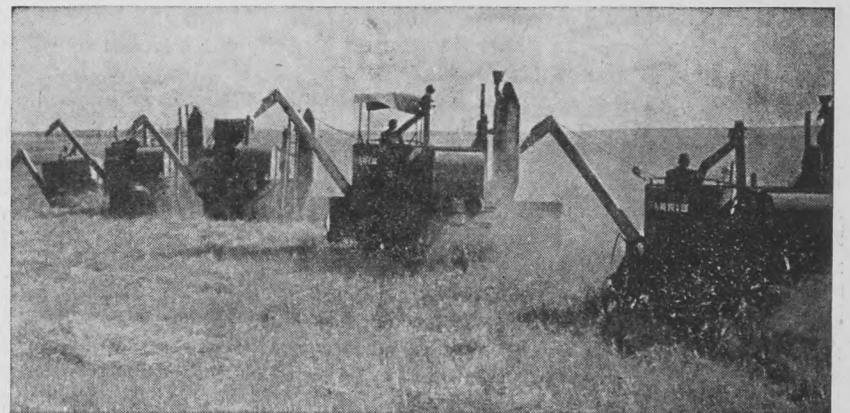
BUT the epic of early settlement is not a railway story alone. There were many notable exceptions, where settlers hauled their equipment and



Oxen and horse teams harrowing a grain field on the farm of J. G. Miller, Craik, Sask., in 1905.

by
C. V.
FAULKNER

Modern, self-propelled combines cutting grain in Saskatchewan in '54.



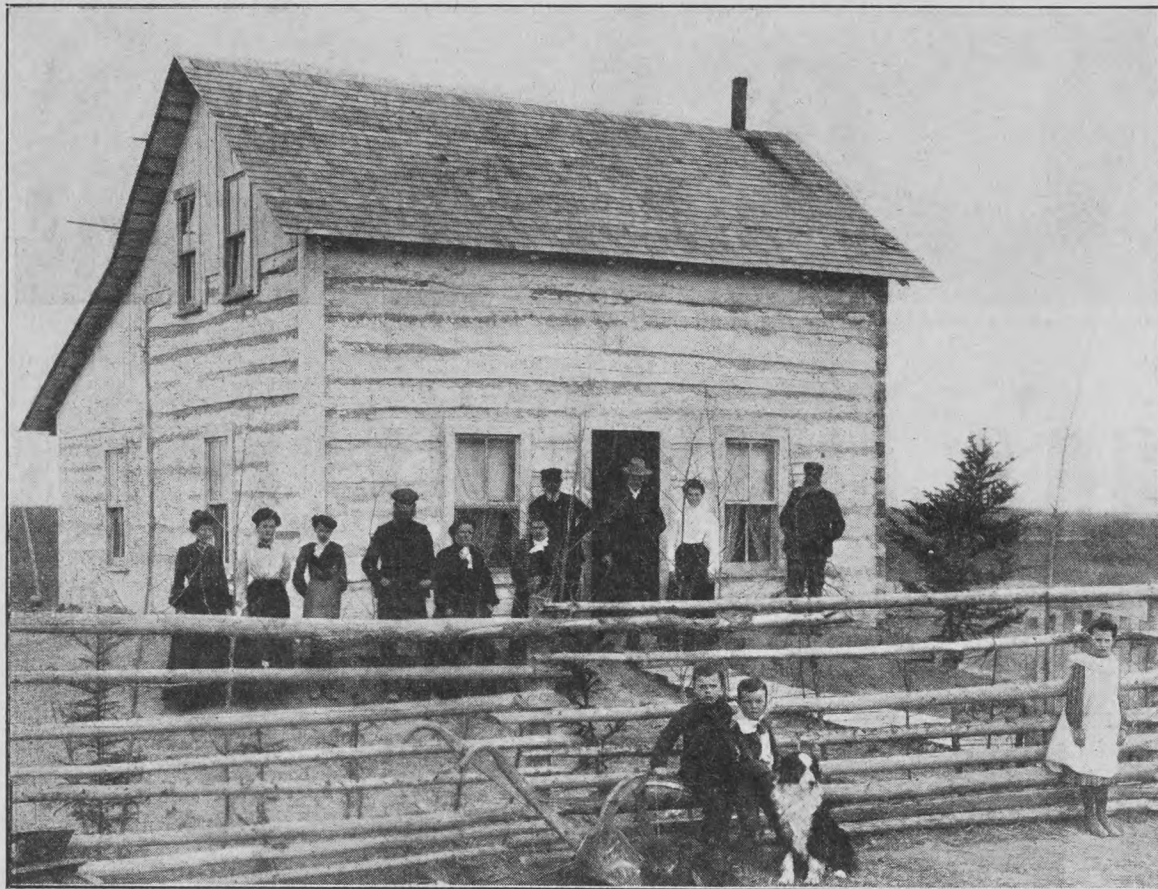
supplies over rough prairie trails for long distances, to reach remote homesteads. One of the largest of these movements was that of the Barr Colonists, who trekked from Saskatoon to Lloydminster in the spring of 1903. Later, many of these men won a place for themselves as individuals who helped shape the destinies of Saskatchewan.

Settlers continued to pour into the province by the train load in the years from 1900 to 1920; the average rate of population increase in the first half of this period was about 40,115 per year. During the second half, however, it dropped to about half that number, and by 1936, immigration had slowed to a mere trickle. As early as 1921 Saskatchewan's economy wasn't developing rapidly enough to absorb all of her young people, and she became a population exporter. Then began an outward movement which was to exceed both immigration and natural increase for a long time. Saskatchewan-born people in other Canadian provinces totalled 27,718 at the 1921 census; ten years later this figure had doubled, and by 1951, war and post-war industrial demands had boosted it to 268,501.

But on this, her 50th birthday, Saskatchewan is still in the infancy of her development: her most productive years lie ahead. Newer methods and newer machines are revolutionizing farm production, and below the land are undreamed of reserves of oil, potash, and uranium. This wealth will be utilized by young and vigorous hands, for the people of Saskatchewan are young in years. At the last census, one-third of the population was shown to be under 15 years of age, 47 per cent under 25 years of age, and 75 per cent under 45 years of age. A young people and a young province, and to inspire them, men like James Grassick of Regina, and A. J. Loveridge of Grenfell, who came overland before the railroad, when "prairie grass grew a foot high, and buffalo bones were so thick you could walk on them."

THE land, the people, and the railroad—these are the main characters of the early Saskatchewan saga. But, later, another factor appeared, which was to exert a powerful influence on the development of the story. This (Please turn to page 54)

DUST *to* DUST



This comfortable and neat chinked log house with trim pole fence, treed lawn and curtained windows was the Wilson residence at Star P.O. (now Lamont), Alta.

HELEN WEBSTER was brushing her old hat in the little farm house kitchen. Clouds of dust seemed to stream out almost endlessly from the battered old relic. How hopeless it all was, she thought, as she brushed and shook the four-year-old creation. Yesterday's dust storm had covered everything in the little grey house. This was her second new hat since she and Jimmy clasped hands before the parson seven long years ago. True, she had some of her sister's hats from far-off Minnesota, but they were not new.

How discouraging this farming game is, thought Helen, as she tried to make the old hat look more presentable by adding a ribbon here and a feather there. Oh, if she could only get a new hat such as she had seen in the mail order catalogues and the few magazines that found their way to the farm—a new picture hat with flowers, rosebuds and leaves.

This year had been dry, but there would be some crop, maybe enough to live on with the help of the cream, chickens and hogs. The price of wheat was a little better, but it always seemed that when they had a good crop there was no price for wheat, and when the price went up they had no crop. "Oh, well," sighed Helen, "likely there is trouble of some kind everywhere." Out of the corner of her eye she noted Jimmy, her husband, awkwardly brushing the coat of the only suit he had—more clouds of Alberta's rich topsoil—"Don't brush so hard," she warned, "that coat is eight years old, remember? It has to stick together till we get to the city."

YES, Helen and Jimmy were going to the city for a little trip. Some months previously Jimmy had yielded to the blandishments of an oil stock salesman in the nearby little prairie town and put his last ten dollar bill into some oil stock of a new oil discovery some 200 miles away. They had put the certificates for safety into the bank. "That will probably be just one more next year's thing," Helen had said, as she watched the bank manager put the paper away in the vault.

"I wish I had that ten dollars now, for a new hat and coat," she murmured. Turning around, Jimmy remarked hopefully, "Wait till we get the big field in next year, and we can get lots of things, clothes, dishes, paint, and maybe a new buggy." Helen sighed hopelessly. Yes, next year again!

But she had been wrong. A month later Jimmy again met the bank manager, who said, "I'll give you a hundred dollars for your oil stock. What do you say?" Jimmy asked Helen, "What shall we do?" Helen replied, "We won't have much crop this year, but maybe we can live on it. Why not take this money for our honeymoon—only seven years late. We need so many things. You need a suit. Little Ruth and Jack need clothes in the worst way, and oh, I would like a new hat. Let's take one little trip anyway. Let's see something of the way other folks live now." Jimmy yelled, "Hurray, let's forget our troubles for a day or two. Let's go."

So here they were, dust everywhere, getting ready for their long delayed honeymoon. They had taken the hundred dollars. A few days later the oil boom burst and their friend lost his money—but that is another story.

AT last they were ready, and what a striking looking couple they were! Helen, a tall, handsome brunette, Jimmy a tall redhead, both measuring six feet—the finest looking couple for miles around. Now the raven locks of Helen, and Jimmy's glistening curls, are white with the snows of many winters. But back again to the story.

Soon they were in the hustling prairie city of the Foothills. Small, compared with Helen's native city of Minneapolis, but still a fairyland to Jimmy and Helen. The bright lights, the great moving picture houses (at that time the silent film). They went into one. It was one of Griffith's magnificent productions. One that, at that time, made picture history. How Helen and Jimmy thrilled to the

Helen and Jimmy have security today, in cattle and wheat. In those by-gone days they had only hope, fortitude,—and a sense of humor. This, by the way, is a true story

by JACK SUTHERLAND

drama of human intolerance, struggle and progress, as pictured on that magic screen. Forgotten for the time being were dust and dust storms, crops and crop failures, machinery and machinery debts. Along with the mastermind of Griffiths they travelled down the tragic pages of history. All too soon they were back in the modest little hotel room; modest, but still a marvel of luxury to them. What soft, restful beds, hot and cold running water at the turn of a faucet instead of the far distant, often-frozen pump at home.

Soon Jimmy and Helen were faced with the stern reality of trying to make one hundred dollars go where a thousand were needed. After they came out of the picture theatre, Helen had noted, in passing, a magnificent plate glass window, a whole showcase full of new hats, hats of every size, shape and color. Hats innumerable. But to Helen there was only one hat. Yes, there it was. A little green velvet bank, green as the prairie wheat after a summer shower. Yes, the only hat—a mass of green leaves, unopened rosebuds on a beautiful white linen base. A marvellous creation!

Hurriedly Helen grasped Jimmy's hand, as she pointed with the other. "Oh, if I could only have that hat!"

Jimmy replied, "Sure nice, isn't it? Wonder how much it costs?" But they could not see any of the price tags anywhere, in the beautiful subdued lighting of the show window.

Next morning again they strolled by that window. Yes, the hat was still there. Helen dared not go in and ask the price. She must see that Jimmy got his suit first. And then there were clothes to be bought for little Ruth and Jack at home.

Into the great stores they went. How little those bustling salesmen seemed to care about money. Evidently cash was not as hard to get in the city, as on the farm. Finally, toward evening, Jimmy's suit and clothes for little Ruth and Jack were safely purchased; but, alas, the hundred dollars that seemed so much at first, had shrunk alarmingly.

Carefully Helen counted the few remaining bills. Cautiously, she purchased a few dishes to add to the very few in her scanty supply of chinaware at home. (Please turn to page 51)



Going to town was an important event. Note the carefully dressed people, the smart democrat and well-matched team. The sylvan scene helped.

Forward with Alberta

From an Irish small farm in 1908 to Master Farm Family in Alberta and Master Breeder of Holsteins, is a record to be proud of

by DON BARON

HALF a century ago, John Eldon Hosford, his wife and five sons and three daughters, worked their 100-acre farm near Bandon town, in County Cork, Ireland. They grew grass and root crops on the dusty land, milked a few cows and churned butter and sold it to townfolk to make their modest living. But it was a time of trouble in the Emerald Isle. Feeling still ran high in the disturbed country as men nursed on memories of bitter feuds and cruel fights. The Hosfords lived uneasily. It would take little to make them leave their homeland.

Meanwhile, the pace of settlement was quickening in the vast spaces of western Canada. Alberta and Saskatchewan were the new provinces recently carved out of the North-West Territories. They signified more self-government to the people already living in the West, but to many more thousands seeking new homes, they meant fertile land, golden fields of wheat and a fresh start in a new and freer country.

In 1907, the eldest son from that Irish family was sent to this new land by his church, as a student minister. He arrived in a little parish 15 miles southeast of Wetaskiwin, in December. He saw that the soil was fertile; and that the country was one of big dreams and great promise. Enthused, he wrote home, urging his family to consider moving, too.

Meanwhile, the second son of the family had recently visited the cattle show at Dublin. His eager eyes widened at the machinery displays. He saw big grain binders, seed drills and multi-bottomed plows, machines far bigger than the 100 acres at Bandon could ever justify. And when the letter came from Sam, it fired his imagination again. By spring, before reaching his 21st birthday, he was in Canada, too.

The two brothers looked at the stretching plains, and toured the surrounding country by horse and buggy. They sized up the growing crops, felt the good black soil, and wired home to their waiting family, "Sell immediately."

The die was cast. The Hosford family would join the trek to the new land. With the farm sold, they



The Hosford family. Seated: Wes and Mrs. Hosford, with grandchildren, Donald, 3, and Susan, 4. Standing: Parents Bill and June; Violet, home from Vancouver; Patricia, living at home; and Doreen, with husband Dr. Murray Herlihy, professor of economics, Michigan State College of Agriculture, Lansing.

packed a few belongings, boarded a boat for the long journey, and waved good-bye to their homeland.

IT was not an unusual beginning in the Canadian west. The newcomers marvelled at the deep rich soil. They found land aplenty. But, they found too, a raw young country, cold, long winters and short summers. They staked their future on their ability to wrestle some of the secrets from this still-unknown land.

But they succeeded, and today much of that story can be seen on a dairy farm just east of Edmonton. For Wes Hosford was the second son in that family to head for Canada. In the succeeding 47 years, he has gone from unsuccessful homesteader, to foreman at the University farm, to President of Canada's biggest dairy breed association. He was the first individual Holstein breeder in western Canada to be named a Master Breeder by his association.

He also has been named a Master Farmer by the Alberta Department of Agriculture; and now, assisted by his son and partner, Bill, is still leading the way by pioneering in the present swing to grassland farming in the West.

These and other achievements, however, were far in the future, when the family made its first almost hilarious start in 1908. The half-section farm they bought near Wetaskiwin for \$25 per acre was stocked with a few Aberdeen-Angus cattle. The dairy-minded settlers tried to break them to milk, and found that range cattle, at best, had determined

ideas about such degrading treatment. In that first tussle, apparently the black cattle won the day. "We decided to eat the cattle instead," Wes recalls now.

Meanwhile, the settlers broke more land, and struggled along until 1912. By then, discouraged by their lack of progress, some of the family wanted to return home. They decided to leave the homestead.

Those were the boom days of the horse business. The tractor had barely begun to make its hesitant entry into the wheat land. At the auction that followed the decision to look for greener fields, one team of matched Percherons sold for \$675. Another mare went through the ring for \$275; others brought from \$100 to \$200.

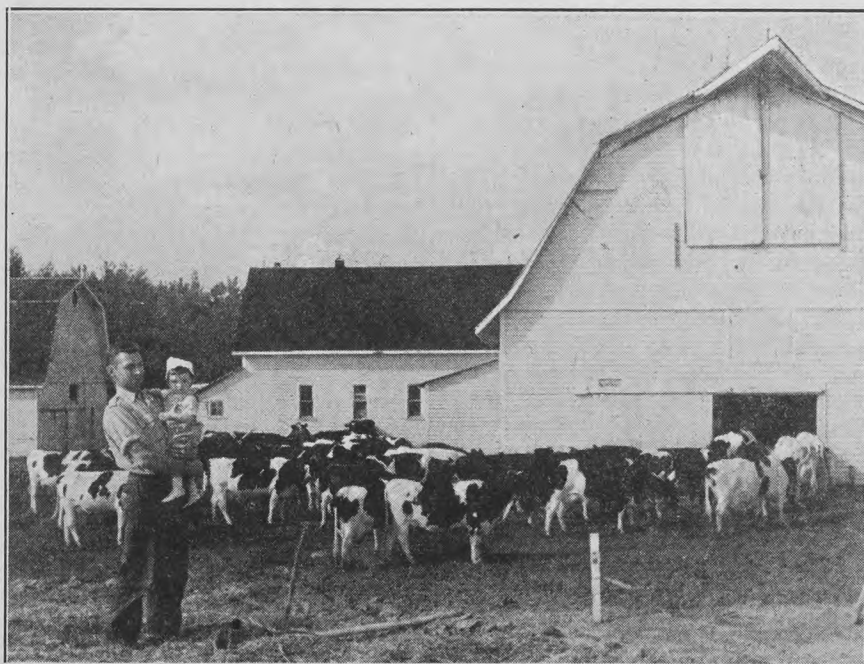
The cattle auction told a different story. Beef was still cheap in North America, and cows sold for about \$30 each. The farm itself was rented.

Meanwhile, Wes and his brother Eldon, heard of homestead land available near Saskatchewan. They travelled to the border town of Alsask. Each took a quarter-section and preempted another quarter, and began again. This time, they would try their luck in the grain business.

Lacking horses for breaking, they headed for the fields with pickaxes, to dig rocks and clear the land. Then, with two Irish neighbors, they got in touch with the Rumley dealer in town. They hadn't a cent for a down payment. But it was a time of big dreams and superb confidence, in the awakening land. Marquis wheat had been introduced, and an influx of settlers had recently filled the district. The Irishmen put on their most confident smile and came away with a 30-60 tractor, a 10-bottom gang plow, a 36-inch separator, and a 12-barrel oil tank. They began to break the virgin land.

That fall, they set out to thresh for others, and earn some cash. They fought with long-stemmed flax that bound up like twine in the cylinders. Unable then to find the simple answer of leaving a longer stubble, they struggled with the crops until two days before Christmas. It was a tough but profitable year.

They took off a good crop of their own in 1913, suffered through the drought of 1914; and in 1915, with Dame Nature beaming upon them, took off what Wes recalls as (Please turn to page 77)



The Hosford purebred Holsteins go into the barn at milking time to reward the Hosfords for long years of successful breeding and herd management.

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TOWN.....PROVINCE

Under the Peace Tower

by HUGH BOYD

SINCE the marathon session ended, with all hands wilting in the sticky heat, Parliament Hill has had a semi-deserted look as far as its rabbit-warren of offices is concerned. Otherwise it's a lively enough place, for the tourists are here in their usual satisfying numbers.

They help to make up for the dearth of regular inhabitants. Cabinet ministers as well as members and senators have been scattered far and wide, whether on their own affairs, or those of the nation. At one time in August ministerial ranks were so depleted that there seemed to be no one available to represent the Canadian government at the World Scout Jamboree at Niagara-on-the-Lake; and although Governor-General Massey was on hand, the absence of a cabinet member from an unusually worthwhile international event has aroused some criticism.

However that may be, the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan can't complain of being neglected in this their jubilee year. It would take more than an injured ankle to prevent the elderly, but durable, Prime Minister St. Laurent from attending the celebrations in the West. There is, of course, a singular appropriateness in this visit by Mr. St. Laurent. He is, in a special sense, the direct political descendant of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who presided over the birth of the two provinces half a century ago. Both, besides becoming Prime Minister of Canada, represented the constituency of Quebec East, in between being Ernest Lapointe, who, as a statesman, was certainly of equal rank.

ANOTHER scheduled traveller to the West (as well as to other parts of Canada) is the Leader of the Opposition, George Drew. He, too, represents a constituency with historic associations, for Carleton, on the western fringes of the national capital, was once held by Sir John A. Macdonald.

Whatever his reception in the West may be, there is no doubt that Mr. Drew's political stock has risen of late in the capital. Speculation that Ontario's Premier Leslie Frost may succeed him as national Conservative leader is being heavily discounted. This is partly because past experience has shown that a successful provincial premier does not always do so well in the Federal field (a Western example may not be hard to find), but also because of the prestige gained by Mr. Drew in the recent session.

Mr. Drew's visit is frankly political, because he aims to travel from one end of the country to the other between mid-September and mid-November, in the interests of the Tory party, talking organization plans with district party stalwarts, attending dinners commemorating the start of the Conservatives' second century of existence under that general title, and addressing public meetings.

The Prime Minister, on the other hand, isn't on the stump, but he doesn't have to be in order to win political friends. It's when he is at his



most urbane and non-political, that opponents wince, and wonder how many votes have gone down the drain.

Yet Mr. St. Laurent didn't do quite so well last time he paid a formal visit to the West, especially in Saskatchewan. That was in the summer of 1953; and it is just possible that he talked too much about political issues, and too little about the broadly non-political subjects he handles so superbly—particularly when addressing or rather chatting with school children—such as Canada's part on the world stage, or how great a privilege it is to be a Canadian. He may have been inveigled into tricky topics like the South Saskatchewan dam.

INCIDENTALLY, that long-deferred project is seldom mentioned on Parliament Hill nowadays, but in all likelihood it is not dead but only sleepeth. With the Canso Causeway in business, having had a triumphal opening to the sound of orations and bagpipes, and with recent news of the great works being undertaken on the Missouri River, it is natural to wonder now and then what's going to be done on the South Saskatchewan.

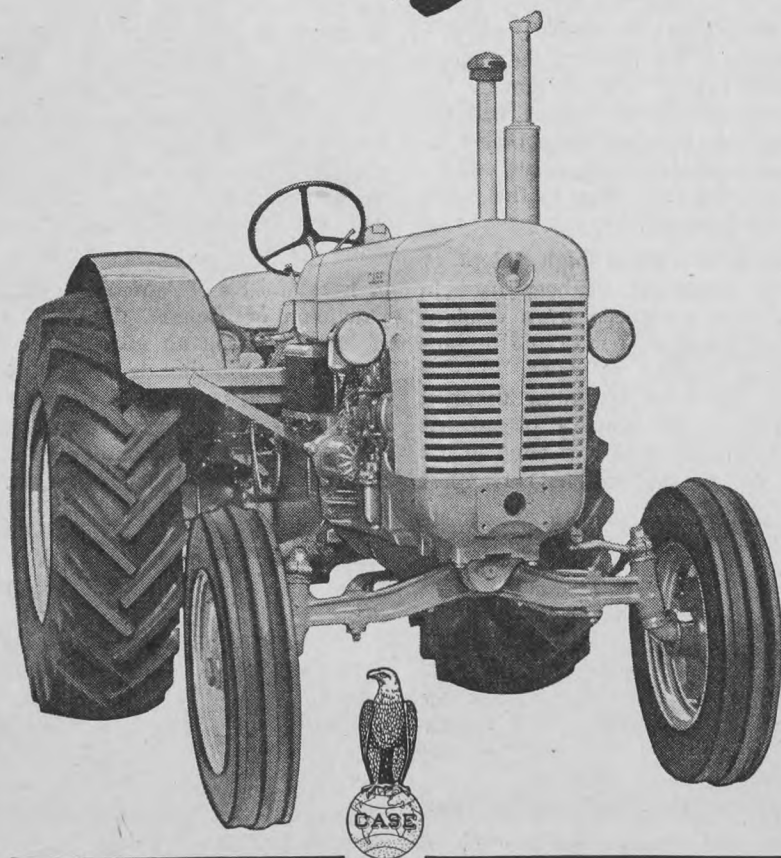
One reason that politically conscious Ottawans are interested in the prairie journeys of Messrs. St. Laurent and Drew is that the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan have been peculiarly arid regions for the two traditional parties in recent years. The recent provincial election in Alberta, however, showed a different trend, and observers here are curious to know whether it is something temporary, or whether it will widen and extend to the Federal field. And is the C.C.F. as strong as ever in Saskatchewan, in the face of its schisms in Parliament?

In the last session, many fairly unbiased people think, the C.C.F. lost some of its effectiveness. At the same time, the Conservatives, who often display a genius for doing the wrong thing, rose in the estimation of a large section of the public. They handled the issue of the unlimited extension of powers under the Defence Production Act with pertinacity and skill, convincing many that this was, in fact, something fundamental to the rights of Parliament. They obviously convinced the Prime Minister, who retreated in such good order, and with such grace, that his own reputation hasn't seemed to suffer at all. ✓



NEW!

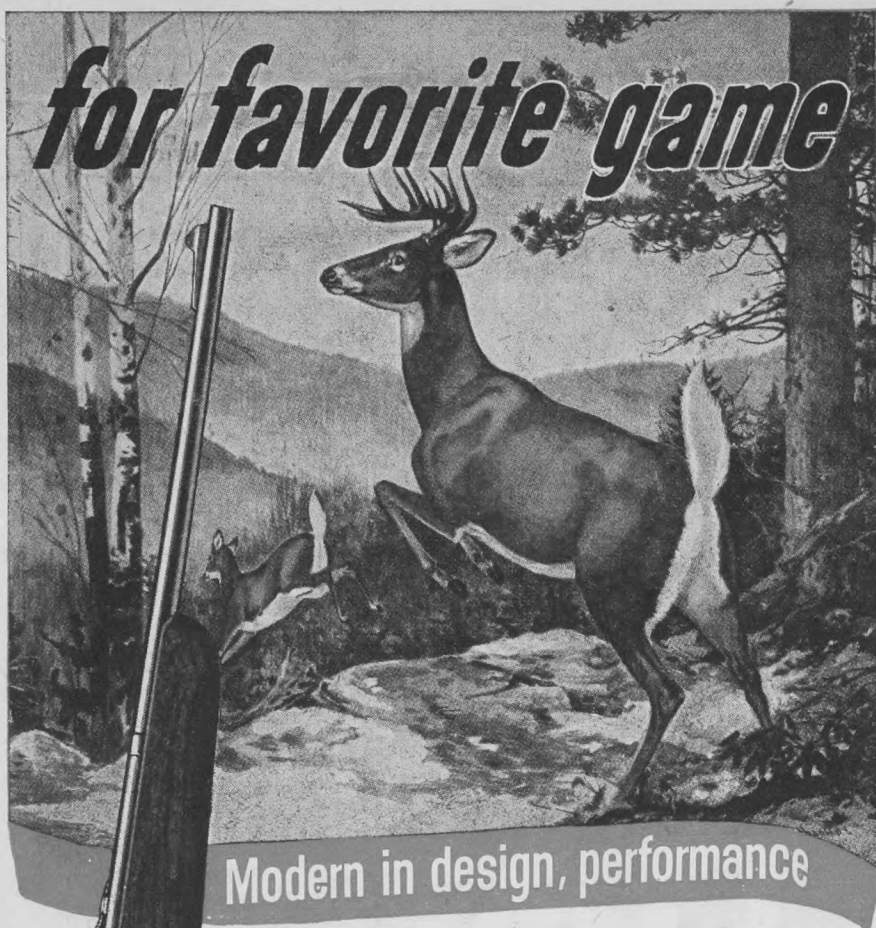
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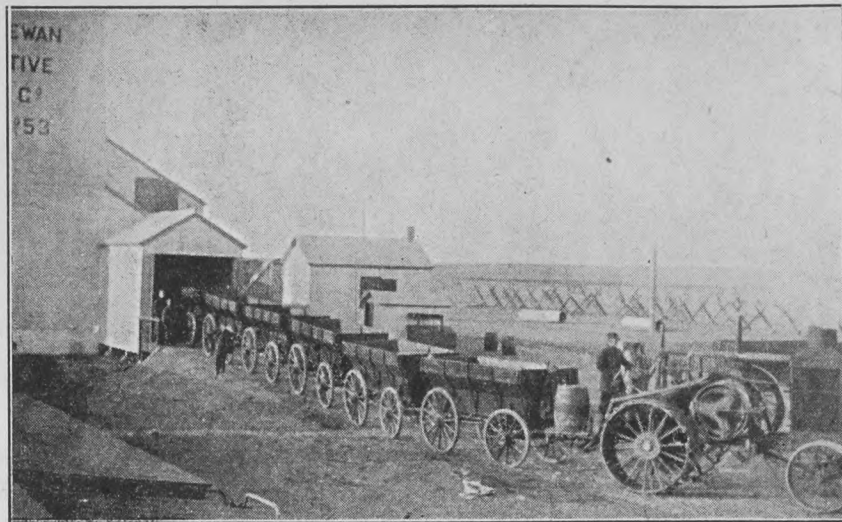
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NEWS OF AGRICULTURE



Empty grain wagons seen leaving a country elevator of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, drawn by one of the early tractor models.

Protest Living Cost

A summary of the week's "News of the World," from *The Grain Growers' Guide*, January 26, 1910

An agitation has been set on foot at Chatham, Ontario, by consumers to boycott eggs and meat which have gone up in price, the boycott to extend until the price drops. A petition is being circulated in which the signers agree to use neither eggs nor meat, and it is being rapidly signed. Eggs have gone up to 40 and 45 cents on the market.

The United States government is preparing to summon the Chicago beef trust to the bar of justice. Criminal prosecution is contemplated, and if the plans do not go astray, some of the men responsible for the rapidly increased cost of living will be landed behind the bars.

The anti-meat eating crusade is not worrying the great meat packers, according to interviews given at Omaha, January 21, by the managers of the great packinghouses at South Omaha. The reason for them not worrying seems to be that the farmers, rather than the packers themselves, will feel the effects of the boycott; the packers concede that if the movement becomes great enough prices will decrease, but they also claim that a reduction in the price of meats will be accompanied by a drop in the prices paid for livestock.

The fight against high prices of food is beginning to bear fruit in Iowa, as is evidenced by a drop of five and six cents per pound in butter in a number of cities. In Des Moines the price of butter dropped from 35 to 30 cents a pound. At Dubuque there was a decline of six cents per pound, and at Davenport

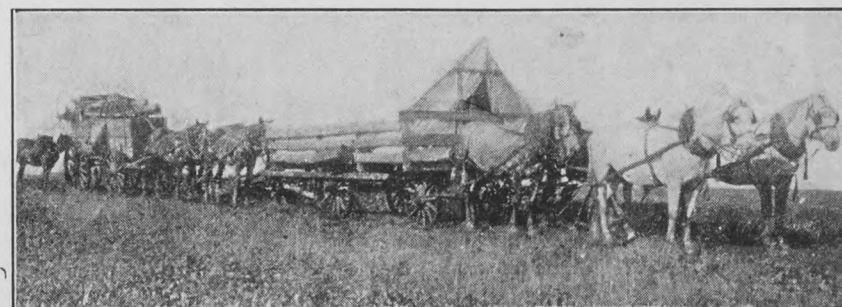
butter was quoted at 31 cents whereas it sold for 36 cents yesterday. The wholesale price of both beef and pork fell ten cents per hundred today.

The meat boycott which struck Pittsburg some days ago has taken a serious turn. Many of those who have hesitated to sign the no-meat paper are rapidly being clubbed into line. Winfred Sauers, a millionaire, was one afternoon badly beaten by five of his neighbors who met him coming out of a butcher shop with meat in his arms.

Following in the footsteps of citizens and labor unions of the United States, a crusade was started January 25, by the Toronto labor unions against the retail meat dealers, pledging to "refrain from eating meat for a period of 30 days, or until the outrageous retail price of meat has been reduced."

The farmers of Kansas declined to play into the hands of the packers, January 24 (1910). It was the packers' game to use the meat boycott to bear prices at the first intimation of large receipts, but the receipts were small, only 12,000 steers being received. The average price was ten cents lower than Friday. "Score one for the farmers," a livestock dealer said.

The Minister of Agriculture for the Dominion of Canada, the Hon. Mr. Fisher, is having an investigation by the officials of the department into the abnormal increase in the cost to the consumer of various farm products and other commodities relating thereto, during the past few years.



Many pioneers came overland by "Prairie Schooner" in early days. The M. Hjertaas family travelling from North Dakota to Wauchope, Sask., in 1915.

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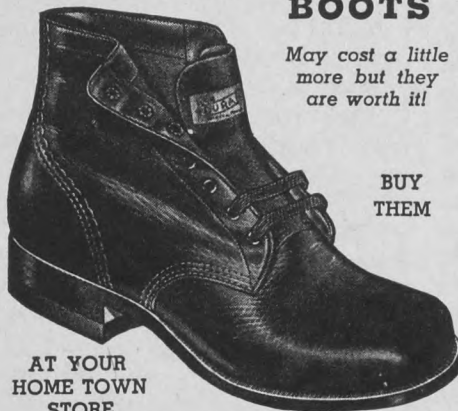
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NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

1908

At a Glance

From the Grain Growers' Guide

The Union of Canadian Municipalities at a recent meeting placed its attitude on Municipal Ownership on record in the following resolution: "That in the opinion of this convention, as public utilities are so constituted that it is impossible for them to be operated by competition, they should either be controlled and regulated by the government, or should be operated by the public, and that they should not, in any event, be left to do as they please." ✓

The next great agitation in the Canadian grain trade is likely to be for government ownership of elevators. There is a movement to this end on foot which is growing in strength and momentum. The farmers are behind it, as they have been behind all recent changes in the organization of the Canadian grain trade. ✓

The principal reason why the export of agricultural and other farm and garden products from Denmark has reached the present dimensions, states a Canadian trade commissioner, lies in the forming of co-operative export associations, whereby quality and packing become uniform. ✓

Things necessary to ensure our prosperity as grain growers: government operation of elevators at country points; government operation of the terminals and transfer elevators; a sample market at Winnipeg; special binning at the terminals and transfer elevators; our wheat graded according to hardness and weight rather than color. ✓

Education for the farm: The era of general education is passing away. Even professional educators are awakening to this fact. Culture is a fine thing, but is no longer recognized as coming only from the study of classics, philosophy, or metaphysics. The forces of nature offer a fine field for culture which is also useful. There is not a subject that has a direct bearing on agriculture but is as cultural as it is practical. ✓

A record wheat cargo taken across the Great Lakes by the Meham for Buffalo today (Dec. 1, 1908) contained 421,000 bushels, the largest grain cargo ever taken across the Great Lakes. ✓

At the present time we find that the majority of the young people brought up on our farms want to leave the country for the city at a very early age. There are many reasons for this discontent on the part of the young people; one thing is that they do not have as much amusement or recreation as they should. In reality they have all work and no play. ✓

Any person who has made a close study of the elevator system in the country and at the terminal points, by which our grain is marketed, and the unfairness and injustice of the grading system by which its value is in a large measure determined, has come to the conclusion that pressing reforms are necessary in each of these phases of trade. ✓

Do you need a NEW ROOF?



If you want to replace worn-out roofing on your farm-house or buildings... there's good news for you at the Bank of Montreal.

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This is a change in name only and does not affect the company's leases, contracts or other obligations.

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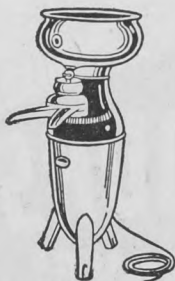


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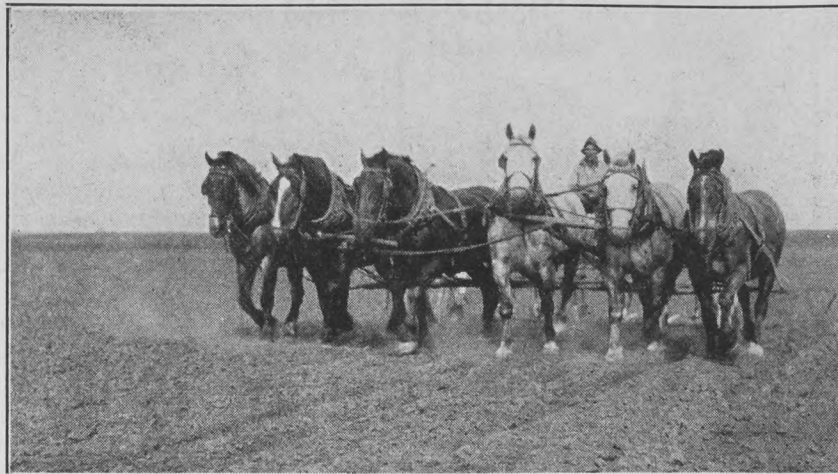
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LIVESTOCK



A tractor will do more work, but you can never take the personal pride in it that you can in an outfit of well built, fast stepping, well fleshed horses.

No Profit From Horns

THE time no doubt was when horns on cattle were a very important appendage. When the country was in a half wild state the long horns were important for protecting the calves and for the cow to protect herself.

Those days are long gone, and horns on market cattle are an expensive ornament. The most obvious cost is the \$2 penalty for horned cattle, and a less obvious cost is the lowering of carcass quality from bruising.

The use of paste is the easiest, cleanest, quickest and most effective method of eliminating the horns according to Charles Gordon, livestock supervisor for Alberta. Other methods include the caustic stick, and such de-horning instruments as tube dehorners, scoops, and others. The electric de-horner sears the base of the horn and kills cell growth: the operator must not go so deep that an open sore is left.

Bovine Tuberculosis Has Declined

AN accomplishment of the first half of this century is the virtual elimination of bovine tuberculosis in Canada. The Health of Animals Branch in Ottawa last month completed tests of cows in a restricted area in each of six provinces, and determined solid progress has been made.

In Carleton County, New Brunswick, 17,977 cattle tested showed 0.06 per cent reactors; Portneuf County, Quebec, out of 34,912 head tested, showed 0.10 per cent reactors; Elgin County, Ontario, out of 43,671 head tested, showed 0.63 per cent reactors; the R.M. of Terrell, in Saskatchewan, with 7,305 head tested and L.I.D. 41 in Alberta, out of 1,481 head tested, showed no reactors. In the Fraser Valley of British Columbia, out of 109,897 head tested there were only 0.02 per cent reactors.

These figures take on considerably more significance when compared with results from the recent past. A 1930 test in Carleton County, N.B., showed 1.80 per cent reactors, the Quebec County tests from 1941 showed 4.50 per cent reactors. Since the first test was made in the Fraser Valley reactors have been reduced from 7.90 per cent to the present figure of 0.02. And in Alberta and Saskatchewan's two test areas so much progress has been made that all that can now be done is to retain the present situation.

Learning How to Increase Yields

ONE thing that we have definitely learned to do over the past 50 years is to step up yields. In spite of the fact the information on management of pastures is available, many producers are raising less forage than would be possible. The rotating of pastures is not widely practiced, and yet it steps up production sharply.

Confining cows on pasture to an area in which they will consume the grass in one day has increased the feed value per acre by 26 per cent at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, when compared with free range grazing.

The plan used confines dairy cows, by electric cross-fencing, to an area that gives enough grass for one day's feed; and each day the electric fence is moved forward, between permanent fences on a pasture strip, to allow an additional day of grazing.

The concentration of droppings is reduced by allowing the stock to range back over the grazed area until the end of each week. Each week a second electric cross fence is moved up to the rear of the animals, limiting them to the day's grazing, plus the previous day's grazed area.

When the aftermath of the first grazed portion has recovered, the cows are moved back for a repeat performance. The unconsumed, advanced grass is cut for hay or silage.

Posts to support the charged wire are made from three-eighths iron, with a flange or loop about ten inches from a pointed end; it is easily pressed into the ground to the loop, leaving a three-foot post above the ground. With these light posts the electric fences can be moved in a few minutes.

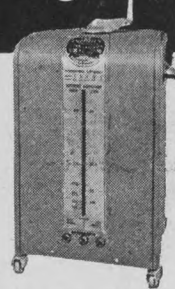
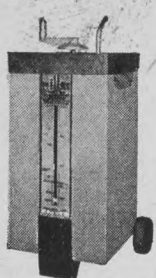
Prairie Pioneer Losing Ground

THE prairie coyote, who was hunting gophers on the plains when the first settlers arrived, is finding life in Alberta extremely precarious. A report from the Alberta Department of Agriculture indicates that the coyote control program was in full swing last winter and large numbers of coyotes were killed.

In the Peace River area in the month of January, 1955, there were 500 confirmed kills. In the Lac La Biche-Cold Lake region, 171 were

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1/2 lb. weights, pair	\$1.60
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Complete unit with instructions to install on car or jeep. The first bawl of the horn will bring cattle to attention, the second should start them moving, and the third will bring them to you on the run. PRICE F.O.B. Calgary **\$18.50**

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LIVESTOCK

killed in December, 1954, and 63 were killed in the Breton area. Seven other municipalities had similar kills.

The demand for materials and equipment last winter gives some indication of the support afforded the program. During January 1,206 coyote-getters, 2,350 cyanide shells, 29,270 strychnine pellets and 1,066 jars of coyote scent were shipped out to pest officers in the province. The poison bait, 1080, was also used extensively.

As the approaching winter advances the program will be resumed. Many old-timers may regard the pursuit toward extinction of the coyote with nostalgia and regret. "The coyote control program was designed to aid the farmers and ranchers save their livestock from this predator, and much valuable livestock has been saved," comments the Department of Agriculture. ✓

New Look In Dairying

IN the history of the prairie provinces the management of cattle of all kinds has made considerable strides. Over the past number of years there has been a growing tendency for the farm herd of beef cattle to be housed in cheap shelters, or no shelters at all. More recently dairy farmers have become convinced that warm housing and stanchions can be an unnecessary cost.

Both trends are in the direction of increased efficiency. Now Dr. W. E. Peterson, University of Minnesota, speaking in Alberta recently, has reported on work and procedures that could lead to an even greater efficiency in the production of milk.

Dr. Peterson suggests that one of the best ways to increase efficiency is to increase the utilization by the cow of forage—the largest single constituent of milk. The method is simplicity itself—simply harvest the forage crops early, before lignin has been produced in the stems. Mixtures of alfalfa and brome have the highest degree of digestibility when they are 12 to 14 inches in height; the simplest way to harvest them at this height is to rotate pastures for the grazing herd and cut grass for silage when it reaches this height.

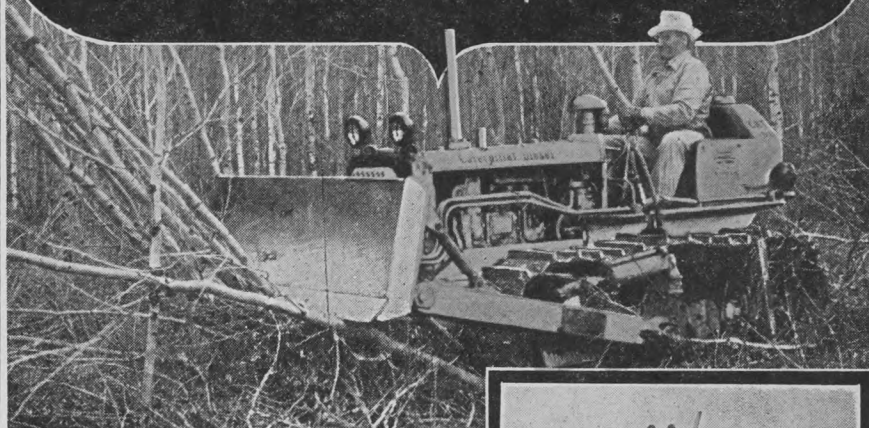
Efficiency of labor can also increase the efficiency of milk production. This also is simple, through the use of loose housing, self feeding and pipe line milkers in milking parlors. It may not be cheap, but neither is labor.

The self feeding of roughage and silage also increases labor efficiency, suggests Dr. Peterson; experiments at the University of Minnesota have shown that the pit milking parlor, with cows 30 inches above the milker in three walk-through stalls on each side of the pit, has proven most efficient for the saving of labor; in such an arrangement a man can easily milk 35 cows in an hour.

Efficiency of dairy production has increased in the last 50 years; the general adoption of the recommended barns and milking stalls and other management techniques could increase efficiency much more. ✓

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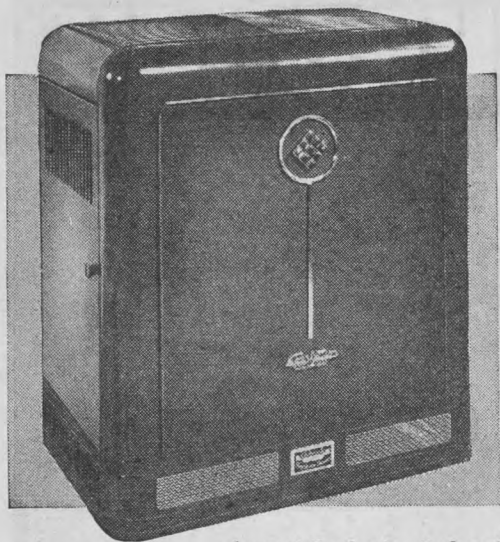
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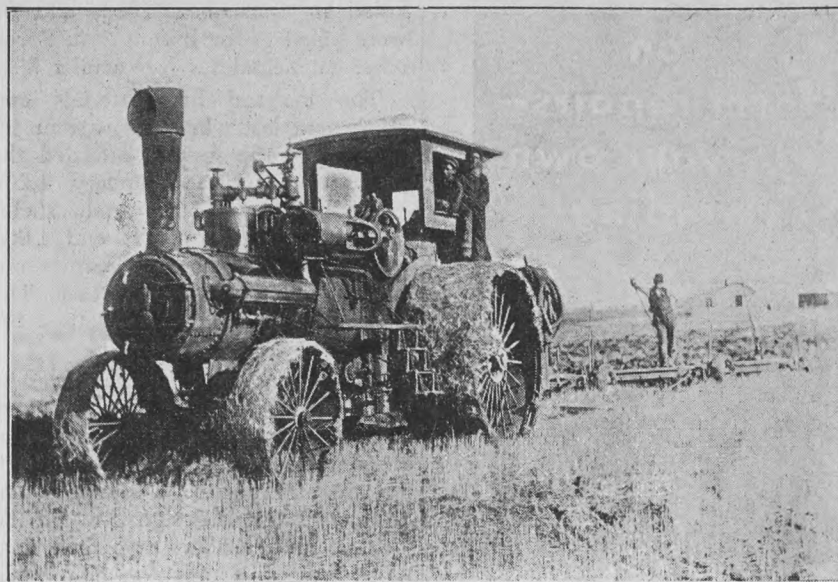
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[Sask. Govt. Arch. photo]
This 32-110 horsepower J. I. Case steam engine is being used here for plowing flax stubble in the spring of 1910. The tractor weighs 20 tons.

Insects Have It Tougher Now

EXISTENCE has become much more difficult in the insect world in the 50 years since 1905. The descendant of the insect of 1905 faces problems and dangers, with which his antecedents never had to contend.

New chemicals and control techniques were bad enough. Now atomic research is being brought to the aid of the crop grower. With the object of improving methods of insect control, the habits and life histories of insects are being studied with the aid of a geiger counter. Minute particles of isotope cobalt 60 are attached with plastic to wireworms, which permits studying the movement of the worms below ground, by picking up radioactive waves from the cobalt.

Dr. J. W. T. Spinks, dean of graduate studies at the University of Saskatchewan, reports that the same technique is used to record the movements of grasshoppers, black flies and other insects. In a test in Saskatchewan about 450,000 mosquito larvae in a pond were made radioactive. In the month following, about half a million mosquitoes were captured in the area. Radioactive mosquitoes were found as far as seven miles from the pond.

In a paper delivered at an international conference in Geneva, Switzerland, at which peaceful uses for atomic energy were being considered, Dr. Spinks reported that radioactive isotopes disclose the rate at which plants consume fertilizer. It has been determined that there is little intake of fertilizer by plants in their early stages of growth, but that it reaches a maximum at two to six weeks, and begins to fall off after eight weeks.

Nor are these the only applications of recent atomic research to agricultural problems. At the same conference, Professor L. Ehrenberg of Sweden reported that exposing grains to atomic radiation will increase mutations in the plants, a fact which has already been proved at prairie universities. Plants resulting from mutations are different from the parent lines from which they are grown, and may be more or less useful as farm crops. But by selecting the mutations induced by radiation it is possible, says Professor Ehrenberg, to increase the capacity of a crop to yield, or to

develop strains with other improved characteristics.

Atomic research is likely to result in heavier crops with fewer insects left to attack them, than was the case when the prairie sod was broken. V

Improving Oat Varieties

VICTORY was one of the very early good oats grown on the prairie. Both Victory and Eagle have been grown in central Alberta for many years; they have lasted a long time because they have been good yielders. However, for today's standards, their late maturity offsets, to some extent, the advantage of heavy yields. The search for oat varieties that will yield as well or better in Alberta, and that will mature early, is continuing.

Eagle oats on summerfallow at Lacombe requires an average of 115 days to reach maturity, making frost a hazard. The earliest oat variety recommended for Alberta, Larain, requires an average of 102 to 104 days to mature, but its potential yield is 30 per cent below that of Eagle, and it is often discounted for this reason.

The research men at the Lacombe Experimental Station are seeking an oat variety that will combine the earliness of Larain with the yield of Eagle. Crosses between the two varieties were made in 1950, and since that time selections and recrossing have been continued in the search for an improved variety.

The ultimate goal of the plant breeder is probably satisfactory yield in a new variety, but E. C. Lowe, cerealist at Lacombe, suggests that other things are also required. A variety of oats for central Alberta should have a good kernel, high nutritional value, reasonable earliness and resistance to lodging. Varieties resistant to lodging usually possess wide spreading anchor roots and thick stems.

Disease resistance is also necessary. Although diseases of oats have not to date been a serious problem in central Alberta, inbred resistance to disease is regarded as a very important insurance for the future.

Giant strides have been made in improving cereal crop varieties since 1905; there is no indication that more giant strides will not be made. V

You Can Control Wild Oats

by L. H. SHEBESKI

Past—Present—Future

WILD oats has been a troublesome weed in many parts of the world since the dawn of recorded agricultural history. Wild oats was introduced to this continent, most likely in seed brought in by the earliest pioneers. A few years after the prairie farmer first broke sod, wild oats began to be known as a serious problem. In the town of Virden, Manitoba, 60 leading farmers met in mid-June, 1906, and spent the afternoon discussing the alarming problem of wild oats. Forty-six years later, at the International Weed Control Conference held in Winnipeg in December, 1952, the panel discussion dealing with wild oats was probably the most comprehensive ever held on any single weed.

Wild oats has become the number one weed problem of the northern part of the Great Central Plains. At present over 70 per cent of the cropped acreage in the three prairie provinces is infested. About 18 million acres are seriously infested.

Any wide scale and practical method of weed control must fit into the general farming practices of the area. It is for this reason that row-cropping, which has controlled or eliminated wild oats in Ohio, Iowa, and eastern Canada, is not recommended here.

The most effective method of control applicable to the prairie farmer is to delay seeding. Simply delaying seeding, however, will not necessarily give control. Details of the method and reasons for inconsistent results have been covered in earlier articles.

Past and present experiences indicate that wild oats can be and are being, controlled by cultural methods. However, more often than not, lowered yields result from delayed seeding and many farmers have shied away from this method.

The future should be a grim one for wild oats. I predict with confidence that within the next 50 years—or, for that matter, within the next 10 years—wild oats will become as easy to control by chemicals as wild mustard is today. We have chemicals that are able to clean out wild oats in specialized crops such as field peas, soybeans, sugar beets, rape and sunflowers. Chemists are developing new chemicals that have a high degree of selectivity, even among the cereals. It is only a question of time before wild oats will be feared no longer and will join wild mustard as an easily controlled weed.

(Wild oats control is becoming an increasingly important problem. For this reason, The Country Guide has invited Professor L. H. Shebeski, head of the Plant Science Department of the University of Manitoba, to provide our readers with suggestions, from time to time, for the control of this costly weed. Each article will be short and practicable; and the suggestions offered will be sufficiently timely to permit of immediate use.—ed.)



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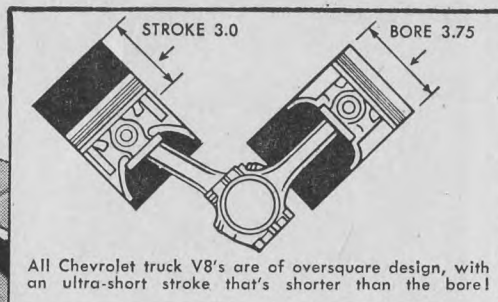
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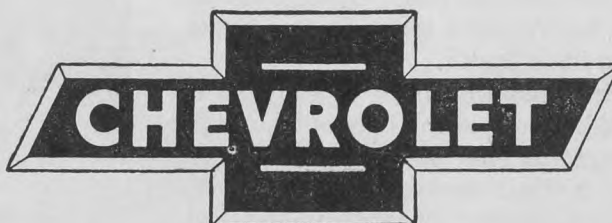
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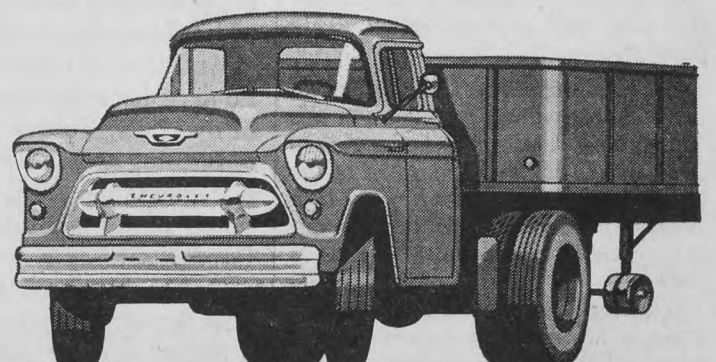
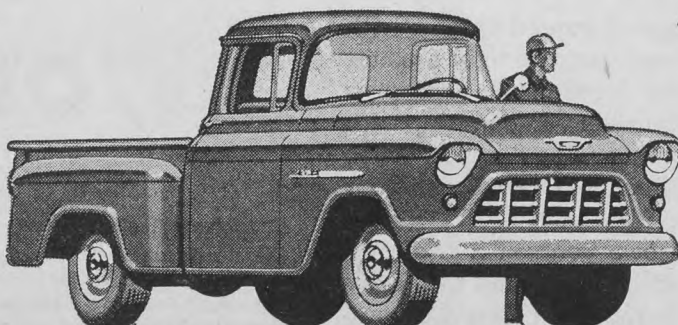
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HORTICULTURE



This 1934 photo shows, l. to r.: James Barrie, Brightholm, Sask. (host); Dr. Seager Wheeler, Rosthern; M. B. Davis, Division of Horticulture, C.E.F. (now retired); W. R. Leslie, superintendent, Experimental Station, Morden; and the late George F. Chipman, editor, The Country Guide. Photo by F. V. Hutton, superintendent, Experimental Station, Rosthern (now retired).

Fruit Was Where They Found It

One enterprising homesteader, however, made the prairies bloom and bear fruit

by DAVID CASTON

THERE was not much fruit on the tables of homesteaders in the early years, except dried apples and prunes. Canned tomatoes were a real treat; and to this day I prefer tomatoes canned rather than ripe off the vine. The only wild fruit we had in any quantity were saskatoons, and a few wild black currants in a nearby valley. These were very tart, but made lovely jam and preserves. Mother had some bushes dug and transplanted to our own garden on the homestead, where they were every bit as nice as the cultivated currants.

The real holiday of the year was when the saskatoons were ripe. They were only to be found in certain places, all of which were from 20 to 30 miles away. Someone would pass the word along that the saskatoons were ripe, and immediately big lunches would be packed. All kinds of dishes, pails and so on were gathered up in which to pick the berries, and the biggest part of the neighborhood would pile into wagons, democrats, or buggies, and head for the most likely places.

IT was the opinion of most people that tame fruit could never be grown in that locality, because of the short seasons. Nevertheless, it was not long until almost everybody had a raspberry patch, and in some years they were quite plentiful. Therefore, when the saskatoon berry crop was good, we were well away. Most people, of course, had a patch of rhubarb, so that one could preserve the saskatoons in a variety of ways, or as is.

One young English homesteader, John Lloyd, at Adanac, wondered why we could not grow other fruits as well. Despite the fact that most people thought him crazy, he went right ahead. By procuring the best and the hardiest of plant stock, and propagating the most promising varieties on it, he soon had a nursery, and an orchard that was producing crab-apples, plums, and even some larger apples, in abundance. I have seen a

large table in his house laden with many different fruits, that looked like a table at an exhibition.

He was soon selling young fruit trees all over the country. When his fruit was ripe his place resembled the old saskatoon patches because there would be people there from all around, picking fruit. All summer long, particularly in blossom time, and especially Sundays, people would come to see the orchard, which later on covered an area of between 20 and 30 acres, completely surrounded by a windbreak of trees. ✓

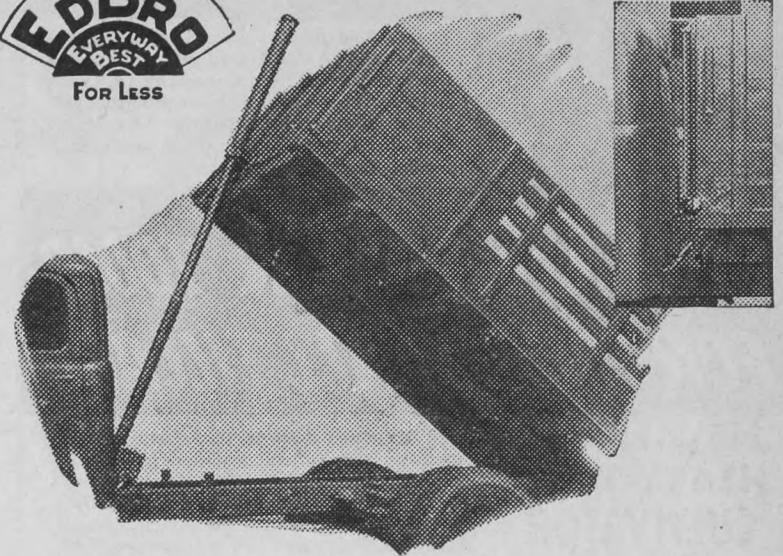
A Tribute

LOOKING back over the years, I find I have been subscribing to The Guide for 40 years more or less. It was the first farmer-owned paper published in the West. I was one of the first in our district of Brightholm—which, by the way, had not then been given a name—to subscribe to The Grain Growers' Guide, as it was then called. The editors then were Ed Partridge and Rod McKenzie.

The Farmers' Advocate and The Nor'-West Farmer, which, up to that time, had served the West, disappeared from the scene, the latter being absorbed by The Guide.

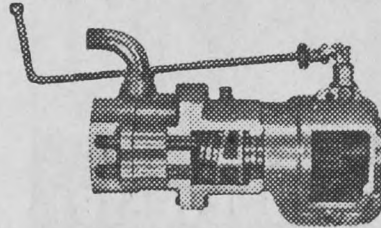
It was from information and advice obtained from the pages of The Guide that we now have a fine shelterbelt of trees around our buildings, which has sheltered us from the cold blasts of winter for the last 30 years. It was also by the encouragement and advice given in the Horticulture Page of The Guide, under the editorship of the late George Chipman, that we now have 125 fruit trees—apples, crab apples, plums and hybrid plums—in full bearing. If Mr. Chipman had lived ten years longer he would have had all the farmers of the West growing fruit trees, such was his enthusiasm for fruit growing. His enthusiasm came quite naturally, as he was born among the fruit groves of Nova Scotia. —James Barrie, Brightholm, Sask. ✓

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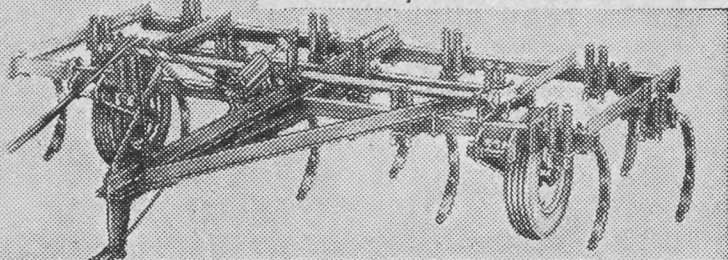
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POULTRY



Years ago many farmers looked upon poultry as something for women and children to amuse themselves with. An early type incubator is shown here.

Consider The Hen

Early poultry fanciers had a job to sell prairie farmers on the potentials of the poultry industry

APPARENTLY the prairie farmer of yesterday refused to take the poultry business seriously. An article in the Grain Growers' Guide of February 2, 1910, entitled "Consider the Hen" took them gravely to task for this. In the writer's own words, "Why is it that one of the most remunerative of the various branches of agricultural activity is so neglected? That is the poultry industry. Poultry and eggs are two varieties of food that are in universal demand, and in western Canada that demand has never been supplied by western products. Year by year great shipments of poultry come in from Eastern Canada to supply the western market. Here we are, living in a country where we can raise the necessary food for the poultry industry more cheaply than in any other place, and yet we bring in from other provinces, at a very high cost in transportation, the products of this industry which should be raised and produced on western farms. The faithful old hen, if properly provided for, will assist in raising the mortgage that has rested on many a farm."

Showing the farmer that poultry raising was a means of lightening the mortgage was good psychology, and many writers of that day used it. In the November 30 issue of that same year, under the heading of "The Development of Canadian Poultrying," another poultry enthusiast said, "I want to write something about the Canadian Poultry Industry. Not that end of the business which is of special interest to the fancier, or the exhibition specialist, but that feature which makes poultrying a very important department of agriculture, and a factor in the nation's development. Canadians have been, and are, peculiarly slow in grasping the magnitude and the enormous possibilities of poultrying. The hen is regarded as something too insignificant for serious considera-

tion, and her economic value is not appreciated.

"The poultry products of the American Republic, for instance, last year reached the astonishing total of \$625 million. This amounts to more than the total wheat crop of the same country in 1908 by nine million dollars. It is nearly one-half the value of all the cattle on the farms in the United States on January 1, 1909, and that, be it noted, is putting only the annual income from poultry products against the total value of the cattle.

"We are told by the poultry educationalists that Canada is producing, annually, poultry products to the value of \$25 million. With a population of about ten times that they (the United States) are producing about 30 times the poultry products that this country is producing. In other words, the United States is beating us three to one per head of population.

"I have drawn this situation to the attention of different farmers, and they seemed surprised beyond comprehension. To them the hen appeared as an industrial joke—something for the women and children to amuse themselves with. These men, and what I am about to say is true of Canadian farmers as a class, readily acknowledge the importance of carefully studying Shorthorn, Ayrshire, and Jersey pedigrees, and admit the absolute importance of having none but the best breeding animals on their farms, but in poultry they have failed to see the difference between the type of fowl which will produce chickens which are matured at two and one-half pounds, and the type that produces vigorous chickens which at maturity weigh from five to six pounds.

"How long is this situation to exist? When will it be improved and the poultry industry take the place it should among the factors in this nation's agricultural development?" V

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Youth Clubs— A Chronology

Rural youth clubs have played their part to promote better farming and good citizenship on the Prairies

- 1911—**F**IRST organized competition for farm youth in Saskatchewan was sponsored jointly by the C.N.R. and the University of Saskatchewan and worked mainly through rural schools. Each contestant was asked to select a minimum of 25 wheat specimens and send them to the University for judging.
- 1912—In Saskatchewan several agricultural societies held livestock judging competitions for boys and girls.
- 1913—In Alberta, the first Schools of Agriculture were opened; one at Olds, another at Vermilion, and a third at Claresholm. This was followed by a School Fair program which soon extended over the whole province.
- 1915—The first Farm Boys' Camp was held in Saskatchewan at the Regina Summer Exhibition.
- 1916—Alberta appointed the first District Agents, or Agriculturists, who later organized junior swine and beef clubs in various rural areas. In Saskatchewan the first Farm Girls' Convention was held at the University in Saskatoon.
- 1918—Saskatchewan's Boys' and Girls' clubs were organized on a provincial basis, with the late Professor John Rayner appointed to direct the program.
- 1919—Boys' and Girls' projects in Saskatchewan were operated through the schools.
- 1922—Saskatchewan's first livestock judging competition for a team of three boys or girls was held at the Livestock Convention, Regina.
- 1923—Rules and regulations were formed for youth swine clubs in Saskatchewan.
- 1924—Eleven Boys' and Girls' swine clubs were organized in Sas-
- katchewan. These were the first of the clubs as we know them today. That fall the province sent two boys to the first National contests held at Toronto's Royal Winter Fair.
- 1929—Sheep clubs were formed in Saskatchewan. In Alberta, beef, swine, and dairy clubs were concentrating on livestock improvement.
- 1930—Beef and grain clubs were started in Saskatchewan. Alberta also formed her first wheat clubs that year, followed by feed and malting barley, oats, forage and potato clubs.
- 1931—The Canadian Council on Boys' and Girls' Clubs was organized to direct youth club work across the nation.
- 1933—Saskatchewan played host to the World's Grain Fair at Regina, and a three-member team won the World's Grain Judging Competition.
- 1934—Poultry clubs were added to the list of projects in Saskatchewan.
- 1936—Saskatchewan formed the first Girls' Homecraft clubs.
- 1938—Foal clubs were in operation in Saskatchewan.
- 1939—In Alberta, the first strictly Girls' clubs were formed. These expanded rapidly to include food, gardening, clothing, and home decoration projects.
- 1942—Dairy clubs in Saskatchewan came under the supervision of the Extension Department.
- 1946—Saskatchewan had a Flockmaster's project for boys and girls.
- 1951—Tractor clubs were organized in Saskatchewan.
- 1952—Boys' and Girls' clubs across the nation changed the name of their movement from "Junior Farm and Home Clubs" to "4-H clubs."

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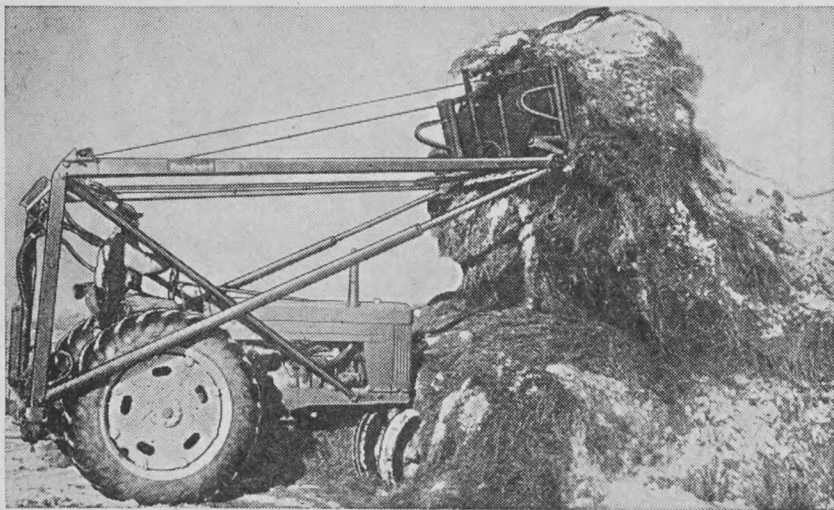
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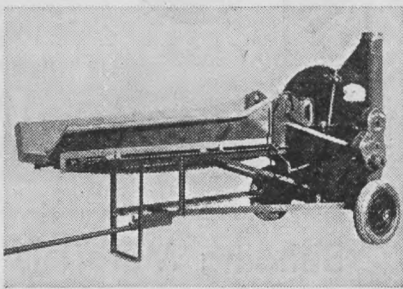
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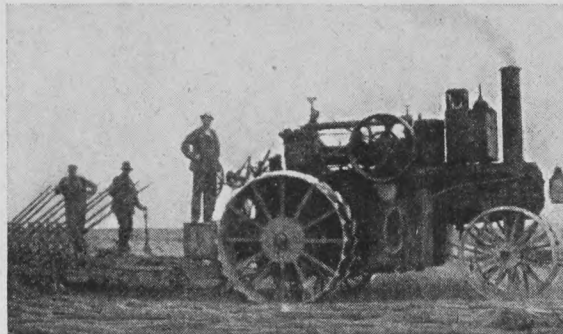
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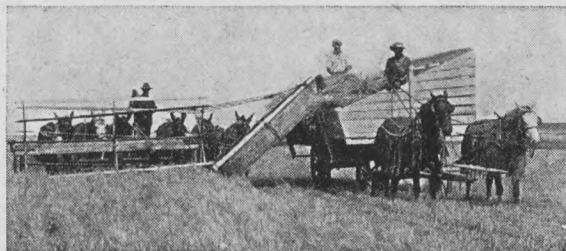
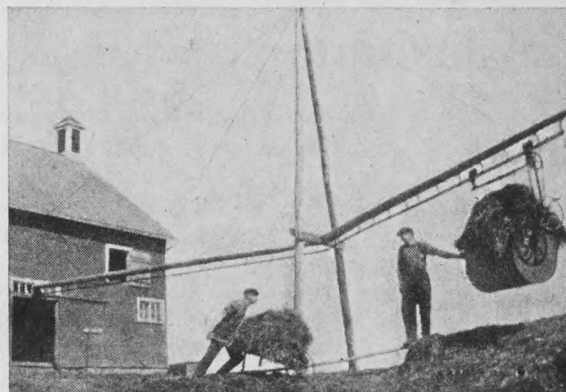
"Newness" is a relative term. Machinery that is new today may be old-fashioned and obsolete 10 or 20 or 50 years from now. Today, big combines do an efficient job of displacing the old steamers with their 36-inch separators, their firemen, engineers

and water tankers. Tomorrow the modern self-propelled combine may have been driven from the fields by atomic powered machines that will harvest half a section of wheat in the time it takes today's combine to harvest eighty acres.



Today almost all farmers have at least one tractor. When the Titermore brothers of Swift Current were plowing with this outfit in 1909 tractors were not only less numerous, but also bigger and much less efficient; but they broke a lot of the prairie.

At the time the Titermores pulled into the field with their outfit, the wheelbarrow was as efficient as it is today. But the track and trash carrier, as a means of cleaning the barn, took a lot of the heft out of the job. The front end loader and manure spreader have cut the work of barn cleaning still further.



Great hopes were held out for the header barge but it never did put the binder out of business. Manufacturers never talked their way around the ease with which a stook would dry, as compared to a stack of heads.

Developments were made and improved header barges appeared. This large outfit depended more on power and less on man labor. It was in the right direction, but it still left too many unsolved problems. It was difficult to dry the stack and it was awkward to thresh it, and harvesting still took a crew of men.



Early combines ushered in the modern era of harvesting. When they appeared it was thought they would result in lowered grades and crop shattering. Manufacturers made claims farmers were hesitant to accept, but combines have advanced and the claims of yesterday now seem conservative.

SASKATCHEWAN and ALBERTA'S



Golden Jubilee

1905 - 1955

At the turn of the century, the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan, this year celebrating their Golden Jubilee, had not yet been born.

The inrush of immigrants—mainly farmers—which was to grow and expand to a farm population of over 84,000 in Alberta and 112,000 in Saskatchewan, had only just begun.

With the aid, mainly, of oxen, horse and plow and against hazards not yet minimized by the discoveries of science, and with none of the amenities of modern living, the farmer, in partnership with the soil of the plains and the foothills, pioneered in laying the foundation of the two provinces' future prosperity and world renown: AGRICULTURE. Other resources, notably coal and oil, powerfully contributed, but agriculture, began, continued, and is today the primary industry of both Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Farmer services fifty years ago were confined to railroad facilities, elevators, and stores located at points often far distant from the farm and with all the inadequacies inseparable from a pioneering era. The era of farmer-owned facilities and services had not yet dawned.

It is a matter of historic interest and consequence that United Grain Growers Limited (as Grain Growers Grain Company) was founded in the year following the birth year of Alberta and Saskatchewan as provinces.

As the West's first farmer-owned Co-operative, it is with especial pleasure, that the Board of Directors of United Grain Growers Limited, whose own 50th Jubilee Year as a farmer-owned Company will shortly be celebrated, extends to leaders of provincial, civic and municipal affairs; to educational leaders; to financial, industrial and business organizations; to farmers and their families and to all the people of Alberta and Saskatchewan, Sincere Felicitations and Greetings at this time of celebration.

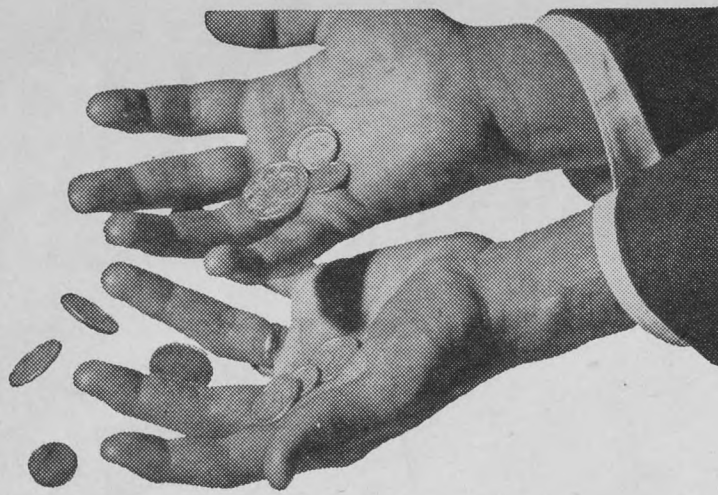
UNITED GRAIN GROWERS LIMITED



SASKATCHEWAN
LEGISLATIVE BUILDING
REGINA, SASK.



ALBERTA
LEGISLATIVE BUILDING
EDMONTON, ALTA.



Will \$10,000 dribble through your fingers in the next 15 years?

If you can set aside a small, regular amount every week, you can easily save \$10,000.

Yes, an amount so small that it could actually slip through your fingers in aimless spending—an amount that, day by day, you'd hardly miss—if properly invested could bring you a *guaranteed minimum* of \$10,000 fifteen years from now!

An Investors Syndicate Plan will make saving faster and easier for you as it has already for more than 100,000 Canadians. You simply set aside a small amount of money regularly. That's all you do—then the power of wise investment and compound interest takes over and helps you achieve your goal. When your plan matures you receive your original objective as a *guaranteed minimum*—in cash or in monthly payments, as you prefer.

So, if you want \$2,000, \$10,000 or \$20,000—in ten, fifteen or twenty years—see your nearest Investors Syndicate representative *now*.

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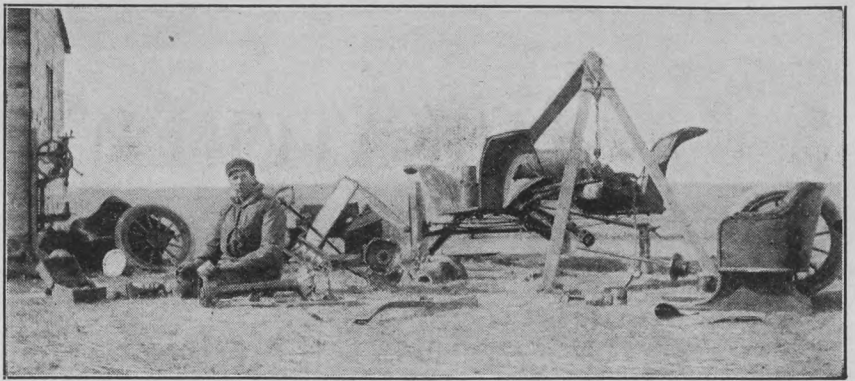
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WEATHERSTRIP WITH **STRIP SEAL**—AT HDWRE. AND DEPT. STORES

WORKSHOP

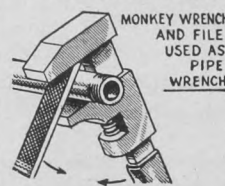


It's a flier. In 1912, when this picture was taken, James L. Moserip, Major, Saskatchewan, was overhauling it outdoors for lack of a workshop.

Fall Ideas for Labor Saving

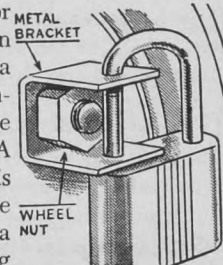
Some ideas for use in the workshop today, and a reminder of workshop chores from an earlier time

Emergency Pipe Wrench. The illustration shows how I use a file and a monkey wrench to do the work of a pipe wrench. As you twist with the monkey wrench press down hard on the file, and the tendency to slip will be greatly reduced.—M.E., Alta.



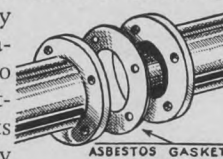
Turning Off Ignition. If you turn off the fixtures in your car, such as the radio and heater, before you turn off the ignition key you will prolong the life of the ignition key contacts; one result of this is the providing of a higher voltage to the coil for starting; another is longer life for the ignition points.—O.T., Man.

Theft Preventer. If you have to leave your car or trailer you can prevent theft of a wheel in the manner shown in the illustration. A metal bracket is bolted under the wheel nut, and a padlock hung through two holes drilled for that purpose.—H.E.F.



Battery Connections. If you are in doubt as to which is the positive and which is the negative connection on your battery when you replace it in the tractor, car or truck, place the connectors on the battery posts and turn on the lights. Do not start the motor. If the battery shows discharge the connections are correct; if it does not they are reversed.—O.T., Man.

Sheet Asbestos Gaskets. Sheet asbestos is a very good gasket material. There is no difficulty in cutting the gaskets to fit, and they can be used to seal most joints. Both sides of the gasket should be covered with graphite or some other dependable compound to assist in making the joint leakless and blowproof.—W.F.S.



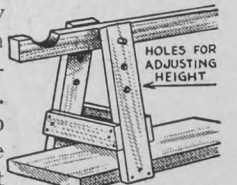
Udder Salve. When the cows' teats get sore I rub used crank case oil on them, and have found that it heals them quickly. It will keep flies and

insects off cuts on the teats, too. I put it on right after I finish milking.—M.K., Man.

Workshop Knife. I made a handy general purpose knife from a used power hacksaw blade: I clamped the blade in the vise and broke off a six-inch piece, and ground two inches at the end sharp on a coarse emery stone. I made a handle by slipping a piece of three-quarter-inch garden hose over the end. The teeth in the saw blade keep the hose handle from slipping.—O.T., Man.



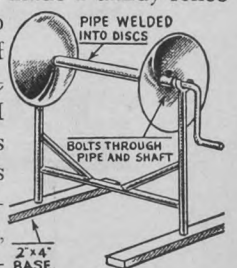
Machine Jack. A few pieces of lumber make a sturdy jack for use when repairing or greasing machinery. From the pin to the end of the lever is eight inches. The base is a piece of 2 x 6, cut 2 1/2 feet long. The three holes shown permit adjustment of height. A chain from the handle could be rigged to hook at the base to hold the machine up after it is raised.—M.E., Alta.



Stoneboat Brake. When you are going down a hill when the snow is hard the stoneboat will run up onto the horses. To avoid this I bolted a pole to the chain between the stoneboat and the double tree. When the stoneboat runs up, the slack in the chain lets the pole go under the runners and stops the stoneboat.—P.W., Sask.



Fence Spool. I made a dandy fence spool with two discs, a piece of pipe and some lengths of rod. I welded the discs to the pipe, as shown, and assembled the parts, with the rod passing through the pipe, and secured to it with a bolt at each end. Several spools can be used with the one frame, if a lot of wire is to be wound.—D.P.T., Alta.



Jubilee Year Commonwealth Hereford Sale

BREEDERS of purebred Herefords and owners of commercial cattle at the Commonwealth Show and Sale, held in Regina, August 5, shared a desire to inspect a fair sampling of English Herefords—cattle from the region in England in which the breed originated.

Breeders who inspected the 16 head consigned by the Hereford Book Society of Great Britain, considered them larger, plainer and longer-bodied than typical North American show Herefords. When the cattle were led into the ring in competition with Canadian breeders, however, this view was only partly sustained; a great many Canadian breeders are raising cattle with just as much scale.

The English cattle left their native English meadows six months before they came up for auction in Regina, and therefore lacked the fit and bloom of the Canadian stock entered in the Show. In the show ring they suffered as a result of the lack of flesh.

They came into their own in the auction ring. Westhide Jubilant, from the herd of Mr. and Mrs. P. M. G. Fraser, Westhide Court Farms, Herefordshire, went to a past president of the Canadian Hereford Association, V. E. Ellison, Oyama, British Columbia; Mr. Ellison, in paying \$6,000 for him, made him high-priced bull of the sale by a substantial margin. Wroxall Kevett, bred by C. H. Evans, Abbey Farm, Wroxall, Warwick, went at \$4,150 to Martin J. Maurer, Rock Rapids, Iowa. Art Slade, Moose Jaw, paid \$3,000 for Chadshunt Keeper, bred by Mrs. M. A. Dunne, Chadshunt, Kinston, Warwick.

When averages were calculated it was found the nine English bulls had sold for \$2,700 each, and the seven heifers from overseas had averaged \$2,000. The top price of the sale for a female was paid by Mrs. Amelia Peabody, Boston, Massachusetts, when she paid \$3,600 for Leen Gillian. William Studdert, Phillipsburg, Montana, and the British Columbia Gang Ranch, took two of the English heifers, one at \$2,500 and one at \$2,000.

The top price for a Canadian bull was paid by Art Slade, Moose Jaw, when he bid \$2,350 for Real Thickset Supreme, contributed by J. A. Paul, Okotoks, Alberta. The second high price, \$2,000, was paid by Bill Studdert, Montana, to Warren Smith, Olds,

Feel kindly toward everyone, but
be intimate only with the virtuous.
—Confucius.

Alberta, for Blue Jay Donald Domino. The Canadian bulls averaged \$1,177.

The high price for a Canadian female entry was paid by Carl Ostapowich, Russell, Manitoba, to W. L. Thode, Dundurn, Saskatchewan; he paid \$1,325 for Dandy Lady TH 52. J. Armstrong, Ravenscrag, Saskatchewan, paid \$1,050 for a heifer entered by the McIntyre Ranching Company, Limited; Art Slade, Moose Jaw, bought a heifer from E. H. Batho and Son, Oak Lake, Manitoba, for an even \$1,000. The 23 Canadian females in the sale averaged \$803. V

MEN PAST 40



The Excelsior Institute is completely equipped to give the latest and most modern scientific Diagnostic and treatment services.

The highly trained Staff of Doctors and Technicians is so extensive that your physical condition may be thoroughly checked during the day you arrive here.

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The Excelsior Institute is an institution devoted exclusively to the treatment of diseases of men of advancing years. If you were to visit here you would find men of all walks of life. Here for one purpose—improving their health, finding new zest in life and adding years of happiness to their lives.

During the past two years men from over 1,000 cities and towns from all parts of the United States have been successfully treated here at the Excelsior Institute. Undoubtedly one or more of these men are from your locality or close by . . . we will gladly send you their names for reference.

RECTAL and COLON Troubles TREATED Non-Surgically

Rectal and Colon disorders are often associated with Glandular Inflammation. These disorders if not corrected will gradually grow worse and often require painful and expensive surgery.

We are in a position to take care of these troubles either with or without Glandular Inflammation treatments.

The proper treatment of such disorders can very easily change your entire outlook on life.

FREE ILLUSTRATED BOOK GIVES YOU FULL INFORMATION

The Excelsior Institute has published a New FREE Book that is fully illustrated and deals with Diseases peculiar to men. It gives excellent factual knowledge and could prove of utmost importance to your future life. It shows how new modern non-surgical methods are prevailing where older methods are failing. It is to your best interest in life to write for a FREE copy today.

Who are Troubled with Getting Up Nights Pains in Back, Hips, Legs, Nervousness - Tiredness, Loss of Physical Vigor The Cause may be Glandular Inflammation

Men as they grow older too often become negligent and take for granted unusual aches and pains. They mistakenly think that these indications of Ill Health are the USUAL signs of older age.

This negligence can prove Tragic, resulting in a condition where expensive and painful surgery is the only chance.

If you, a relative or a friend have the symptoms of Ill Health indicated above, the trouble may be due to Glandular INFLAMMATION.

GLANDULAR INFLAMMATION very commonly occurs in men of middle age or past and is accompanied by such physical changes as Frequent Lapses of Memory, Early Graying of the Hair and Excess Increase in weight . . . signs that the Glands are not functioning properly.

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The War brought many new tech-

niques and many new wonder working drugs. These new discoveries were added to the research development already accomplished. The result has been a new type of treatment that is proving of great benefit to men suffering from Glandular Inflammation or Rectal and Colon Trouble.

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On your arrival here we first make a complete examination. The Doctors who examine you are experienced specialists. You are told

frankly what your condition is and the cost of the treatments you need. You then decide whether or not you will take treatments recommended.

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Gentlemen: Kindly send me at once your New FREE Book on Diseases peculiar to men. I am _____ years old.

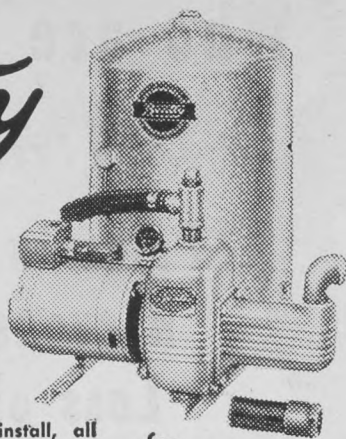
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MONTHLY

The First 50 Years in Retrospect

Fifty years ago on the first of September, the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan were created out of the sparsely populated and largely undeveloped territory lying west of the Manitoba boundary and extending across the plains to the Rocky Mountains. Encompassed within the boundaries of the newly created provinces was a vast and largely undeveloped area of 500,000 square miles of prairie, lake and forest.

Opportunities for settlement had been established with the extension of the Canadian Pacific Railway across the southern plains in 1882-83 and these were further enhanced by the formation and construction programs of the Grand Trunk Pacific and Canadian Northern Railways. Settlement followed the railways and wherever settlements developed social and political institutions were instituted, yet as late as 1901 the combined population of the area now comprising Alberta and Saskatchewan was only some 164,000 persons compared with 255,000 in the Province of Manitoba.

The main feature of the subsequent history of the two provinces was the rapid spread of agricultural settlement and the founding of hundreds of communities following an influx of immigrants from Eastern Canada, the United States and Europe. Associated with agricultural settlement were a multitude of problems—economic, social and physical, which had to be met and solved before the peoples of the prairie region could enjoy a reasonable degree of stability of living conditions. Probably, there are few regions of the world where the forces of nature and economic conditions have offered a greater challenge to human society and few are the human societies which have more successfully met these challenges.

By September, 1905, the railroads had already provided links with many sections of the area, the grain trade was well established and social institutions such as schools and local government were established in many districts. But these were only the beginnings—in the brief 50 years which followed, the prairies, matured from primitive pioneering to a highly developed and complex stage of civilization.

Response to the Economic Challenge

Geographically and economically the three prairie provinces comprise a single unit and consequently the history of the farmers' struggle for economic equality is a single story. From the pioneering days to the present, agricultural production in the West has been characterized by a dependence upon export markets, great distances from these markets and consequently high shipping charges and frequent fluctuations of yields and prices. Consequently the farmer has aimed for some stability of price and a degree of protection from the extreme lows of agricultural income which have periodically plagued his existence. Through his own co-operative enterprises, political action and legislative enactment, he has achieved some major degree of success in overcoming these problems.

Abuses of the grain trade was the real force which drove the farmer to organize for his own protection. As a result, the dominant theme of western agriculture from 1900 to 1914 was the organization of grain producers into strong and effective societies.

The first victories which followed the formation of the Territorial Grain Growers Association in 1901 led directly to the entry of producers into the commercial field. The establishment of the Grain Growers Grain Company in 1906 was the first successful, large-scale attempt on the part of the producer to control the marketing of his own grain which, in addition to its own success, paved the way for other great co-operative enterprises on the prairies.

Apart from the commercial achievements of the organized farmers, success in the legislative field had a great effect on the structure and regulation of the Canadian grain trade, and contributed substantially to producer welfare. Two acts of parliament, each developed and refined over the years and jealously guarded by producer organizations, stand out above all others—the Canada Grain Act and the Canadian Wheat Board Act.

The Canada Grain Act

Discontented farmers immediately prior to 1900, alleged that they were being mercilessly exploited by means of short weights, excessive dockage and the monopolistic position of the elevator owners because of the refusal of the railways to allow the erection of flat warehouses where standard elevators existed. Car supply and methods of distribution were also a cause for dissatisfaction.

The appointment of a Royal Commission in 1899 to investigate the basis of the farmers' complaints led to the passing of the Manitoba Grain Act in 1900. This statute introduced a large measure of government control over the elevator system by the appointment of a Warehouse Commissioner with wide powers of supervision and investigation and provided for the Car Order Book designed to regularize the distribution of boxcars at country points. The railways were required to furnish locations for flat warehouses when demanded and to provide platform facilities for direct loading of grain when a group of farmers applied for them.

In 1904 the Grain Inspection Act which recognized the importance of western grains was passed. Thus there were at this time two acts under which the grain trade was regulated. Western grain producers were dissatisfied with this situation and after considerable agitation the Canada Grain Act of 1912 was passed.

This Act combined the control of warehousing with sales and inspections but its outstanding feature was the creation of a Board of Grain Commissioners with much wider powers than those formerly held by the Warehouse Commissioner; it provided for hospital elevators for the improvement of out-of-condition grain and made provision for sample markets. The Act also authorized the federal government to construct or acquire

COMMENTARY

terminal elevators at the head of the lakes and charged the Board with the duties of operation and management.

The Canada Grain Act of 1912, which may be considered the basic Act, has been continuously amended and on two occasions completely revised.

Most important later amendments to the Act have prohibited the mixing of top grades of Canadian wheat at terminal elevators and have provided for the appointment of assistant commissioners in each of the three prairie provinces. Worthy of note was the amendment of 1925 by which the requirements of grade were no longer allowed to remain discretionary as previously but were made definite. Too, in 1930 a declaration was made that elevators are works for the general advantage of Canada and the names of the various grain grades established under the Act were copyrighted.

The Canada Grain Act protects the rights of the producer by strict regulation of elevator operations, by requiring the elevator manager to receive grain without discrimination, by special bin accommodation and by maintaining high standards of Canadian grain. This Act, which has been refined to its present form largely as a result of producer agitation, may be correctly viewed as the grain producers' Magna Charta.

The Canadian Wheat Board

The concept of "orderly marketing" was known to the early founders of the Grain Growers Grain Company and to the Saskatchewan Grain Growers Association, although it was many years before definite attempts were made to stabilize grain marketing operations.

The first Canadian Wheat Board was established by the Canadian Government at the close of the First World War for the express purpose of meeting conditions of the international wheat board at that time. The Board was charged with the marketing of the 1919 crop and such portions of previous crops as remained undelivered at August 15, 1919, and having completed this task, ceased to accept wheat on August 15, 1920.

Despite producer agitation for the continuation of Board marketing, the government remained adamant, but a concept had been established and in the minds of many producers, initial, interim and final payments as had been practised by the Board remained as a desirable pattern for the future. Failure to obtain a government Board induced grain producers to consider the principle of "pooling" on a co-operative basis and resulted in the establishment of the Wheat Pools in 1923 and 1924.

The difficulties of the pools during the economic crash of 1929 and the action of the Federal Government in initiating and pursuing a "stabilization policy" are well known to western farmers. Of more significance, however, is the fact that these developments led directly to the establishment of the Canadian Wheat Board in 1935. In taking this action the Federal Government identified

itself still more closely with the business of selling wheat.

The Canadian Wheat Board Act as passed in 1935 was part of the government's institutional structure designed to deal with problems arising out of the sale of stocks of surplus wheat and was not looked upon as a permanent body. However, following a short crop in 1937 the government in 1938 established a minimum price for wheat which was above that prevailing on the open market. While it operated as a voluntary Board it handled most of the wheat of that year and became established in the producer's mind partly as a price support mechanism.

Following the report of the Turgeon Commission in 1938, the Federal Government proposed to abandon the Canadian Wheat Board and to rely on its futures market system for the marketing of Canadian wheat. The proposals were not favorably received by producers nor by western government supporters and it was forced to retain the Board as a marketing organization to which producers could deliver their wheat at a minimum price on a voluntary basis.

During the early years of the war and under conditions of increasing supplies the Board began to regulate deliveries at country points in order to allocate space fairly, the system of permit books was instituted and minimum prices were established annually.

The next step in the evolution of wheat marketing policy occurred on September 27, 1943, when under the stress of war conditions, the Canadian Government announced that it would acquire all stocks of unsold cash wheat in Canada and that trading in wheat on the Winnipeg Grain Exchange would be suspended. Thus the Wheat Board became the administrative agent for the government, in sole charge of marketing Canadian wheat.

In 1947 the Canadian Wheat Board Act was amended to enable the Wheat Board to carry through the terms of the British Wheat Agreement and subsequent amendments were passed to facilitate Canadian participation in the International Wheat Agreements.

A further important step in the evolutions of the Board was the amending Act of 1948 which in addition to authorizing the compulsory marketing of oats and barley through the Board, strengthened the Board's control over the interprovincial movement of wheat by including control over the movement of wheat products.

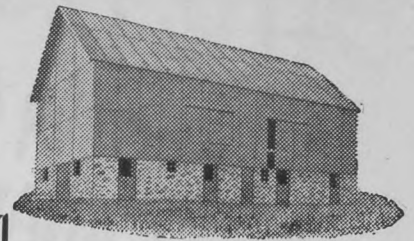
In its present form the Board has complete control over the movement and sale of wheat, and very nearly complete control over oats and barley. The final status and form of the Board has not been determined but it appears to be a permanent fixture in the prairie grain economy. Changes in its status and operations may be required to meet changing conditions in the international grain trade, but whatever changes are required it may be assumed that producers and their organizations will have a strong voice in the determination of its structure, function and operation.

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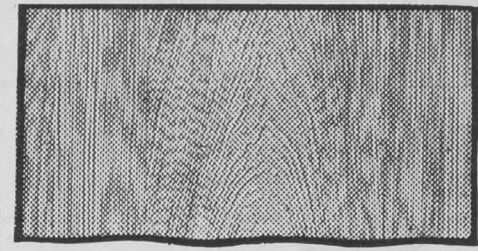
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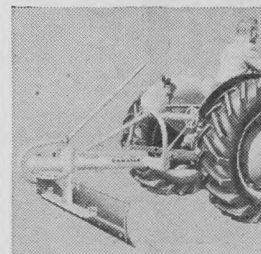
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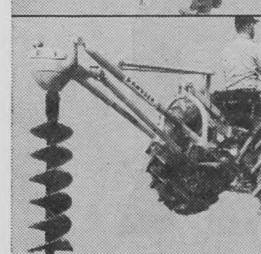
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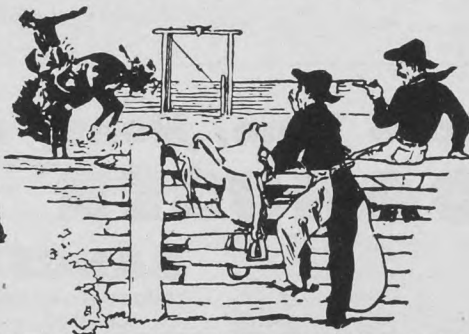


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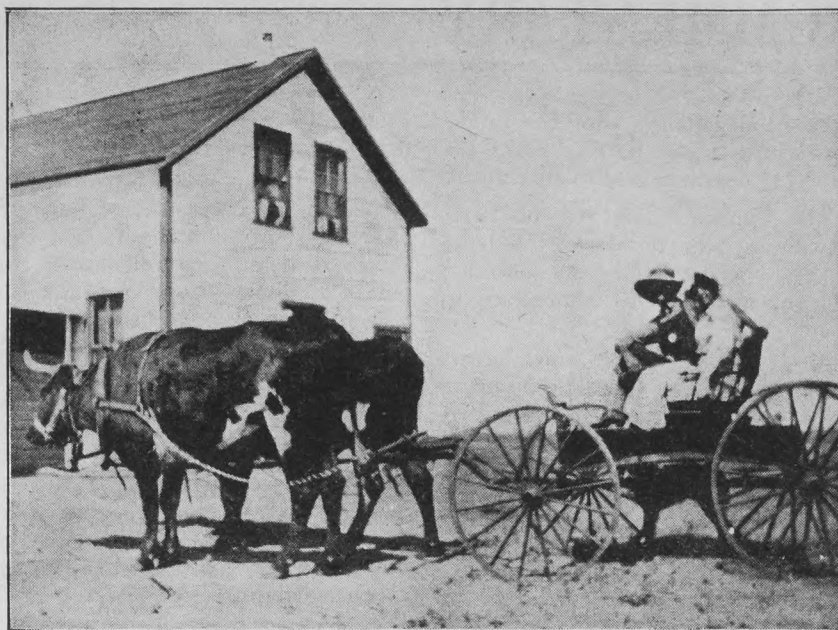


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Rich in flavour!



There were compensations in the old days. Buck and Bright were never in a hurry, and especially at courtin' time, this was often a decided advantage.

Oxen, Too, Had Their Day

Far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife they kept the even tenor of their way

by EMIL LORENTSON

THE ox did more to develop the country than most people living today realize. If you think this is the only age for big outfits, you are wrong. When I was a child back in Wisconsin I used to play and climb around on a plow they had used to break with, which was pulled by 24 oxen. The beam was something like 12 by 16 oak and was carried up in front by a cart with huge wheels—I'd say eight or ten feet high. It made a furrow 24 inches wide and would lay down poplar brush three inches thick.

Out west then there was a man freighting with 24 oxen and would take nearly a carload of hay at a trip. For breaking prairie at a low cost, they beat anything ever invented. Twelve miles per day was a good mileage in this heavy gumbo.

You'd get up at daybreak, wrangle the oxen and give them a gallon of ground oats. Herd them to your plow where you had left your harness the evening before, and, believe it or not, they would get so well trained that they would take their right places themselves. Moreover, that furrow ox wouldn't walk anywhere but in the furrow. Work them about four hours and turn them loose. Hitch up again about 5:00 o'clock and make up your 12 miles and you would have nearly an acre broken, at a cost of eight gallons of oat chop.

Many a homesteader got going good, then went into debt for a big steam, or horse outfit, and went broke. Socially, oxen had their advantages, too. A young fellow could take his girl to a dance and the cowboys would keep him all het up and maybe a bit angry, too. They might keep his girl away from him all evening and maybe outbid him on her box at a box social, but he had it over them when it came to taking her home. The cowboys would go galloping and ki-eye-ing down the prairie, while he with his reliable team of oxen could relax and devote all his attention to his girl friend. If he hadn't just got everything talked over by the time they arrived home, he could drive into the yard,

and maybe Tom and Jerry would lie down and take a snooze while they finished their talk.

That part came to an abrupt end when I got my lizzy. It was a sales talk that did it. She would take you there and bring you back; and its a rattling good wagon. That's true, but it rattled so much one would miss a lot of the nice things the young lady tried to say with the soft pedal she had got used to having on her voice, while riding behind the oxen. Then she would be frightened for fear you'd upset hitting a buffalo trail, and I'd be up on pins for fear I'd hit a rock and knock my oil plug out and lose the oil.

Shucks! It spoiled all the fun. A fellow couldn't pay any attention to his girl. Then when he drove into the yard, the noise of Old Liz would wake everybody and the dogs. If he settled back on the cushion and thought maybe he could take a few minutes to talk it over, the first thing you'd hear was the window open and the old lady of the house would call out, "Good Heavens! Don't you know it's after three and you should be in bed?"

So give the faithful ox some credit when you celebrate this 50th year anniversary. Seldom has there been such notable development in such a short space of time. The ox, too, has helped to place Saskatchewan and Alberta among the most peaceable places on earth to live.

Tribute to A Mail Carrier

OUR mail carrier in the early homesteading days not only did his job well, but was a friendly spirit throughout the long length of his twice-a-week route. He never missed a trip and was so regular that the people along his route claimed that they could set their clocks by him, no matter what the weather.

He often had blizzards to face; and after a storm his trail might be nearly

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HOT TIP feature—AC's long, thin, recessed insulator tips heat up faster to burn away combustion by-products and prevent plug fouling.

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Preferred on Millions of Vehicles.

UNITED MOTORS SERVICE-AC
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GENERAL MOTORS PRODUCTS OF
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impossible to trace. It ran through an Indian reserve and after a bad storm, when there would be no sign of it, the Indians would have it staked out for him with willow stakes. They, as well as the homesteaders, held him in high regard, admiring his courage and cheerfulness. At his own home it was nothing, on a bad night, for him to have a number of Indians sleeping on the floor.

He never carried a gun and was never molested, despite the fact that after the railways came closer and encouraged the growing of grain and the building of elevators, he carried large sums of money—in cash—from the elevators to the homesteaders.

He not only carried the mail, but also the odd passenger. He had lost both his legs some time before coming to the homestead, and wore two artificial legs which were not very notice-

able. This condition, plus the fact that he liked a good joke, even if it was his own misfortune which made the joke possible, was responsible for much puzzlement on the part of a young student minister who rode with him on one occasion. The weather was well below zero, and the young minister fresh from the East, had been provided with a large, heated stone placed at his feet, and had been well bundled up in robes to keep him warm on the long journey. The mail carrier himself got into the sleigh, put his feet on the dashboard and drove away to his first stop, apparently unconcerned about the cold. The passenger could not understand why even the driver's feet did not get cold, and concluded that people came tough in the West. It was not until a long time afterwards that he learned that the driver had no feet to get cold. ✓

Livestock Marketing, 1910

Livestock marketing problems are not new. They faced early organized farmers and aroused widespread interest

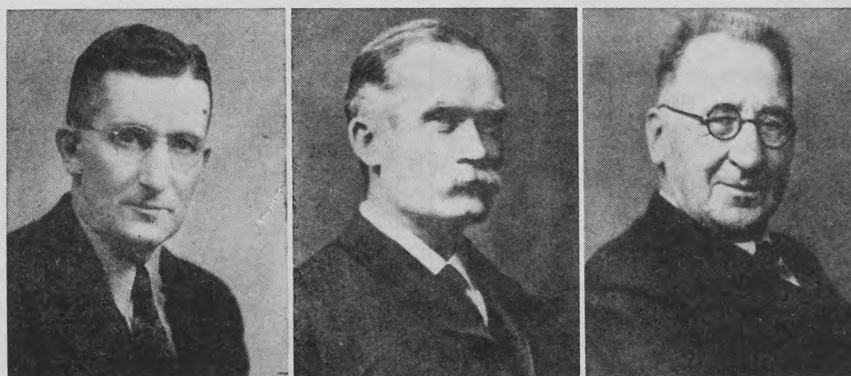
IN view of the recent widespread discussions of livestock marketing in the three Prairie Provinces, we believe many readers will be interested in brief extracts from the proceedings of the annual meetings of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association (Prince Albert, February 9-11, 1910), the United Farmers of Alberta (Edmonton, January 19-21, 1910), and the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association (Brandon, December 15-17, 1909).

A number of questions were arousing great interest among the organized farmers of that period. The three organizations were particularly interested in the problem of securing elevator space and of marketing livestock more satisfactorily. On the latter question committees had been set up in each organization and each committee reported. The general problem, however, had three principal aspects which the organized farmer felt to be important. One aspect from each of the provincial reports has been selected as bearing on the general problem.

Manitoba Grain Growers' Association. "Report of Beef Trust Committee: That this convention authorize our executive to watch legislation in relation to the establishment of union stockyards and abattoirs to be maintained for all time on independent lines, and, further, that our executive interview the executive of the Grain

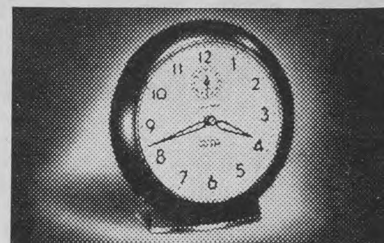
Growers' Grain Company with the object of having them open a branch to include the sale of livestock and other produce, and that a dead meat trade be established without further delay. We also recommend that our executive demand from the proper authorities, such as the Railway Commission, such redress as will bring about more humane treatment of all livestock while in transit, so as to secure that such stock shall be fed and watered within a maximum period of 12 hours, should the owners so desire. And further, that the Stock Yards Company be made responsible for the safe delivery of stock while in their stockyards, by charging a proper fee for such responsibility. And further, that our executive demand from the Stock Yards Company the right for the shipper to restore his stock to their normal condition before being weighed and sold, as obtains in Toronto."

Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association. "Chilled Meat Industry: The farmers of Saskatchewan are at one with the farmers of Manitoba and Alberta in the desire to improve conditions under which livestock is marketed. The subject came before the Prince Albert convention and was discussed at considerable length. Jas. Bower, president of the United Farmers of Alberta, was present and gave the convention the benefit of an investigation made last year himself

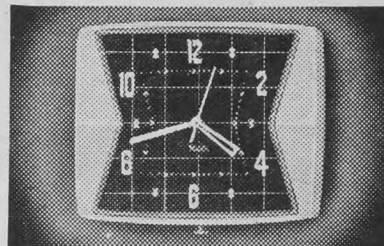


Three men who symbolize progress in Saskatchewan and Alberta. Left: Percy E. Reid, Dairy Commissioner for long years in Saskatchewan, until 1947; Dr. James W. Robertson, Dairy Commissioner for Canada, 1890-96; Dr. C. P. Marker, Dairy Commissioner for Alberta, who introduced butter grading in 1915, retired in 1933. All three greatly encouraged dairying.

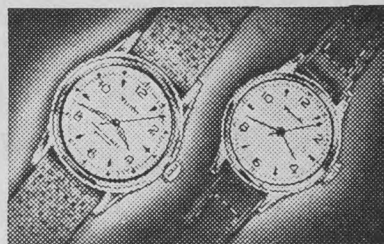
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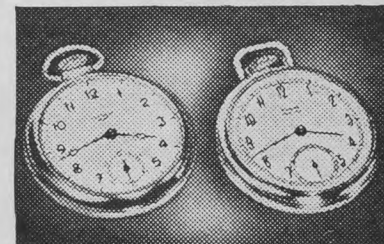


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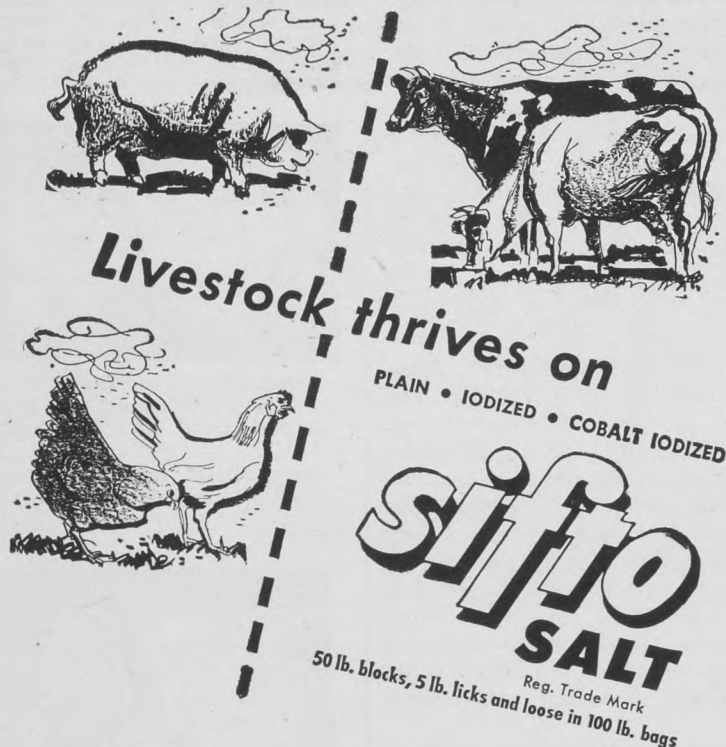


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in marketing conditions in British Columbia. It was explained at the convention by delegates that the meat trade was now in the hands of monopolists and that the farmers did not get a square deal and that there was but little incentive to continue at present in the raising of livestock. It was felt that some immediate action must be taken and the convention passed a resolution recommending the establishment of municipal abattoirs under government control. To supplement this and to provide for a national chilled meat industry, it was decided to work in conjunction with the farmers of Alberta and Manitoba and a resolution was passed requesting the Dominion government to take hold of the matter. The provincial government was asked to urge the necessity of immediate action upon the Dominion government, by so doing it was hoped that a chilled meat export trade could be worked out which would provide a profitable industry for the farmers of the west. The Grain Growers of Saskatchewan are now in line with those of other provinces." V

United Farmers of Alberta. "The Pork Packing Plant: As was to be expected, the most serious proposition before your directors this year was that of the government pork packing plant. Your directors are unanimous on the question, in fact it might safely be said that all the farmers are unanimous, and have done everything to bring this to a successful conclusion, even going so far as to send out a petition to the unions with the result that a number of petitions were sent in to the Live Stock Commissioner signed by farmers and guaranteeing a supply of over 20,000 hogs. The executive committee waited upon the premier in May and asked to have the matter

FROM VOL. I, No. 1

If you feel that The Guide
Is just what we require
Don't forget it takes fuel
To keep up the fire.

—From The Grain Growers' Guide,
June, 1908.

settled, but nothing has been done. The fuller report of the interviews with the government will be given by the legislative committee. Your directors feel that it will be advisable for the delegates at the annual convention to express their views on the

subject, as it is feared that there may be an attempt to block this scheme, which, when in full operation, will be a blow to certain business interests, and it may be that their influence is being used against the proposition. In any event, a whole year has gone since the report of the pork packing commission was accepted, and nothing has been done." V

Real Old-Timer

"GRANDMA" WARRINGTON, 98 years old and still spry as a rabbit, was an honored old-timer at the Loverna, Saskatchewan, Pioneer Days celebration this year. "Grandma" rode in a flower-filled car,



Grandma Warrington, at 98, was almost smothered with flowers at the Loverna, Sask., celebration.

in the colorful parade, before returning to the home of her daughter, Mrs. Chris Foss.

Meanwhile, her son, Dan Warrington, an old-time rancher, was setting up a cookstove behind his chuckwagon on the rodeo grounds. Dan had been ranching at the Sleepy Valley Ranch since 1911, and decided to give the young fry, and old-timers, too, a taste of by-gone days. Helped by Ole Foss from Minnesota, who came north to join in the celebrations with his relatives at Loverna, he served up bacon and flapjacks at his own expense. "Biggest difference," he recalled, "was that the bacon we are using is a better grade than the old sow-belly we used to fry on the range." V



This characteristic early western farmyard with log and sod buildings, pole racks and fences, horses and other livestock could still be duplicated.

The Off Ox

by DAR ALEXANDER

UNDENIABLY, it was partly the ox's own fault. The old adage, as one sows, so shall one reap should apply equally to oxen as well as men.

Day after day, in the years circling 1884, that particular ox had strolled leisurely along, carrying within an unexpressed contempt for his mate, who foolishly kept one step ahead, thereby taking the larger share of the burden.

"George," said Harry, and his voice held a mixture of despair that can only accumulate after enduring a great amount of misery, "I'll have to dispose of my off ox!"

As to a brother, Harry, not too long from England, had always brought his troubles to this Canadian friend, who miraculously seemed to have advice that proved its value unerringly.

"Look at that!" With earth stained finger, Harry pointed to a half-worn whipple-tree. With mounting anger the digit turned to the extra shine on the wagon tire close behind, "And that! Third whipple-tree this month," he said disgustedly.

"You know, George," he said, after a moment, "I've always thought that the people around here were friendly and pleasant. Whatever their difficulties, you can always bank on a smile from a passing neighbor, but lately, I've noticed that as they smile or laugh, they usually point to that slinking ox. They always yell something when passing, but I can't hear what, for that infernal noise made by the whipple-tree scraping on the wheel. I believe they're laughing at me, as well as the ox! I tell you George, I'm going to sell that cussed brute. I'm going to get rid of him!"

"You don't happen to know of anyone wanting a good ox?" he asked hopefully. A smile was beginning to edge through the frown.

With trained eye, George inspected the team.

The offending animal was in much the better flesh. A deeper look of contentment rested on him than on his somewhat thinner mate.

"Harry," said George solemnly, "I do not wish to appear rude, but the tremendous task facing the Western farmer today, must not be increased by permitting brakes of any kind to hamper our struggling efforts. This situation" motioning toward the al-

most ruined whipple-tree sagging against the shiny wheel, "is the result of your lack of disciplinary measures. This," pointing to the dozing ox, "is a good beast, speedy and reliable if handled properly."

He put up his hand as Harry was about to interrupt.

"Long ago," he continued, "I found it was useless to flap the lines, or yell, or swear at a slow ox. It requires a more modern technique. I'll show you what I mean."

He walked quickly to a clump of trees walking close by, and returned with a cleanly trimmed sturdy stick about seven feet long in his hand. The smaller end had been whittled to a finely sharpened point.

Almost reverently, Harry accepted the stick. Once again, his friend had risen to the occasion.

"Some people call them a prod," said George, "but personally, I think the proper name would be a 'speed-gauge'." They were alone in George's yard, but the owner leaned over and whispered: "A little jab or two on his rump with that, and you'll think you have a new ox."

After confidentially advising his neighbor that he was soon to become the first Postmaster in the district, Harry climbed onto the wagon, the lines in one hand and the prod held gingerly in the other, to take his departure.

"Gid up!" he yelled with force far exceeding his hopeful expectancy.

Though George's dog yelped and tore toward the house, the shrill cry brought no response from the nodding beast. But his mate, obeying the command, lunged ahead and immediately the screech of the rubbing whipple-tree filled the air.

Clutching the prod in sudden anger, Harry, with more force than would be again necessary in a long time, jabbed the sleep fogged animal in the rump.

With a startled bellow, the ox leaped into the collar, tearing the wagon down the lane. In amazement, the driver's eyes were glued to the flying single-tree.

From the gate, Harry waved a farewell hand as if in acknowledgment of a new and important step forward in progress. The accompanying rumble was a more progressive sound than the squeal of a wearing whipple-tree.

"Good Old Harry," soliloquized George as he pocketed his knife, "he'll make a dandy mail-man, and with that prod he'll surely rip up and down those 'Pipestone Hills'."



An old soddy and a pile of bleached buffalo bones could well symbolize the coming of the white man to the open plains, after which the buffalo must go.

[Photo copyright Ernest Brown Collection]

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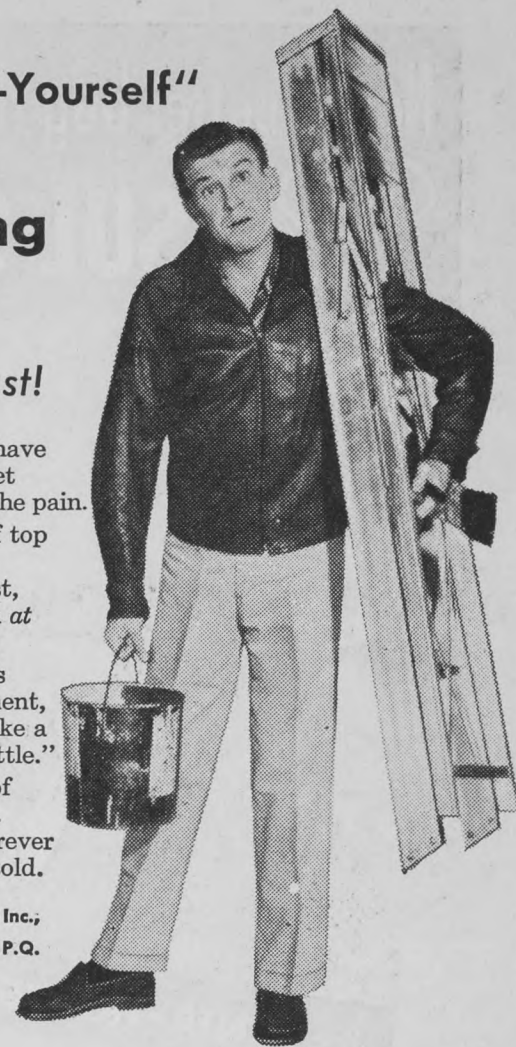
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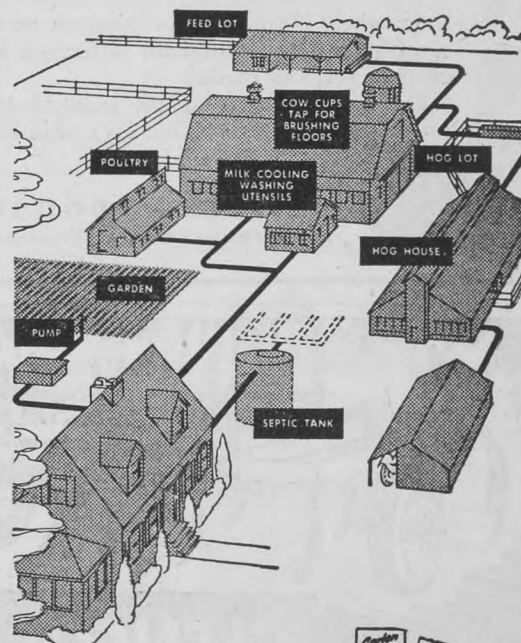
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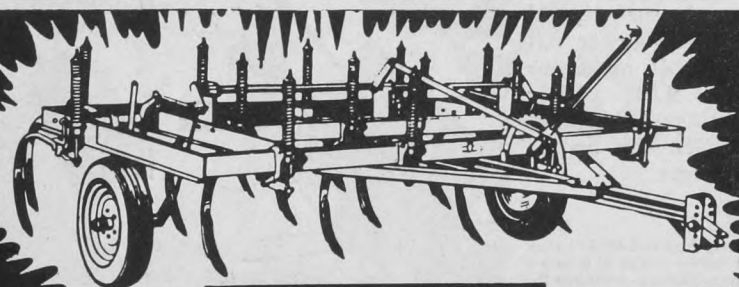
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Learning The Hard Way

by DAVID CECIL

Many of the funny mistakes and misadventures of early homesteaders have been charged to the "green Englishman." The more experienced homesteaders often found a great deal of humor in the actions of those less experienced.

One of the latter in our district had bought his outfit from a man who made a business of outfitting homesteaders: a team of oxen, wagon, plow and all that he might need to start with on his farm. It included also a pair of hobbles for the oxen to keep them from wandering too far, when turned out to graze. There was also a logging chain for general use, and also to serve as a lock for the wagon when going down hill. Ox harness had neither martingales nor breaching to keep the load from going too fast on a down grade.

Everything was explained to him and he set out quite happily for his new home. All went well until he came to the first hill. There, following instructions, he locked the wagon in the prescribed manner, but they had not told him to wait until it was on the level before stopping. He was stopped on a grade and consequently had great difficulty in getting the chain off, because the oxen could not hold the wagon back sufficiently to give him any slack.

At last he was away again and when he reached the next hill he sat for some time at the top trying to think of a more convenient way of making it. At last he had it! Why not hobble the oxen and not bother to lock the wagon? That would stop them from going too fast. So, grinning to himself over his brain wave, he did just that and started down.

Pretty soon the wagon began to shove the ox collars up around their ears. To keep from being run over, they lifted both front feet together and loped ahead. Ahead, however, happened to be a big slough at the foot of the hill. Likewise, a sharp turn in the trail. Pull on the lines as much as he could, however, he failed to make the oxen take the curve. The result was that oxen, wagon and all were in the middle of the slough, with the wagon bogged down and everything brought to a stop. There was nothing for it, but to unload, carry everything out, and then use his chain at the foot of the hill instead of at the top. After unhitching the oxen and with the chain hooked to the rear axle, the wagon was pulled out backwards.

One young homesteader who was very fond of eggs, decided that he needed some eggs of his own, so that his family might have fresh eggs regularly. He went to a dealer in town and told him what he wanted. The dealer had some hens in one pen, and roosters in another. When he went to get the hens the homesteader thought he was being cheated, because the birds in the rooster pen looked so much bigger and better. He insisted on buying them, despite the dealer's effort to explain that they were

roosters and would not lay eggs. The homesteader would not listen and went away with 12 roosters and one hen, which the dealer had put in.

A month went by and there were no eggs. But at last one day the hen found time to lay an egg. The homesteader found it and rushing to the house with it he told his wife that now they would be having their own eggs, as the hens were beginning to lay.

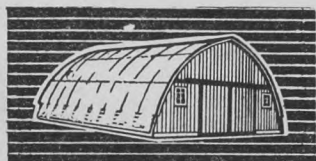
Two young homesteader friends of ours from Ontario had taken the job of breaking some land for a party who had bought land next to our homestead. They were camped in an old sod shack with neither doors nor windows, and the result was that the mosquitoes could come in at will. They usually would. All that the young men had for breakfast, dinner and supper was oatmeal porridge. For a table they had two pieces of board stuck in the side wall, and for seats they used two pieces of firewood.

Having no shirts to wear, they were always fighting a losing battle with the mosquitoes. One night while eating their supper of porridge, one lad took a lusty swing at a mosquito feeding on the other fellow's back. The result was that both plates of porridge landed on the dirt floor upside down, and because the oatmeal was rationed to do so many days, that meant going to bed without supper. However, they almost always came over to our place every evening after their supper, to have a chat. In the course of this evening they laughingly told what had happened. So mother, being mother, made them have something to eat before going home.

Another local lad really got the horse laugh. He had recently bought a pony from the Indians for riding, since all his draft animals were oxen.

One day he rode to a little store about 15 miles away to get some medicine for a neighbor. It was dark long before he got home, but when he came to a fence which he knew was his own little pasture fence it was clear that by following it around he would come to his soddy. However, when he pulled his pony around to what he thought was the right way, the pony refused to go that way; and when he tried to force it, it started to buck. Not being a very experienced horseman he soon found himself sitting on the ground watching the pony trot off the other way. Picking himself up and telling the pony in no uncertain terms to go back to its red masters, he walked along the fence in what he considered to be the right and nearest way. Much to his surprise things were not coming out as he expected. He turned two corners instead of the one, which should have brought him to his shack, but there was nothing for it but to continue, which he did. At last he arrived at his stable, to find his pony there waiting for him. It had come the right and the shortest way. Meanwhile his face was redder than the wind and sun had made it.

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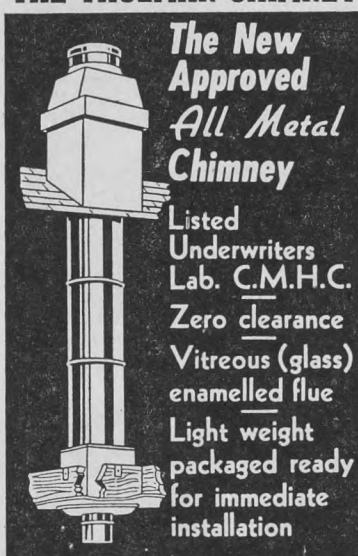
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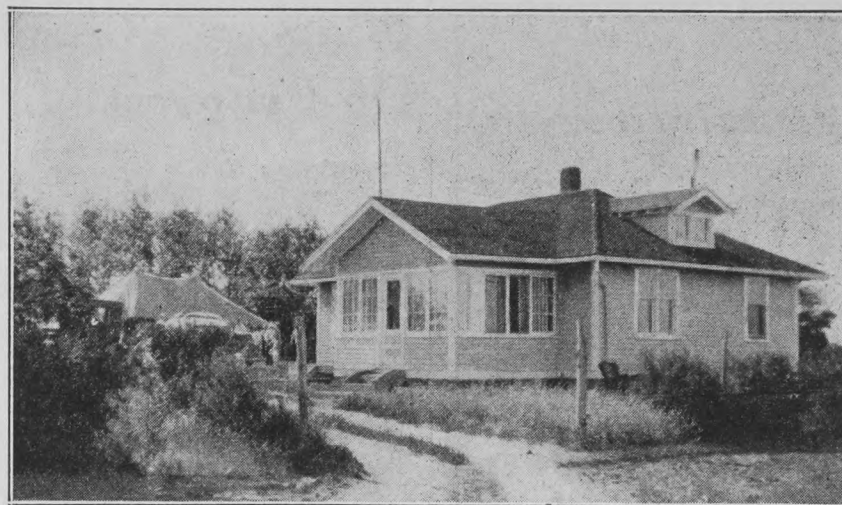
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The house that Bill and Jeanne built. In the background is the tent for the field day held at Bill's place because his farm is an experimental sub-station.

Tribute from An Old-Timer

To an early dry-land Alberta homesteader and
to James Murray, whose advice he followed

by **EMIL LORENTSON**

ONE Sunday, in 1912, I was bicycling out to my homestead—35 miles from Alsask, Saskatchewan. Coming over a small knoll, I ran into a wire corral with about six knock-kneed, bog-spavined wind-galled horses—the kind that would make No. 2 fox meat today. Around, there was scattered a lot of old machinery that a scrap dealer would ridicule you for keeping, while others would claim you were being unpatriotic. A little further on was a small shack, where I called in, and, in the usual way of a homesteader, was asked to have some dinner. The temperature was about 95 outside and 120 inside, as my homesteader friend, Bill Heiden, was baking bread and cooking dinner. His pork barrel, which he had brought from the East, had gone through one or two stages of fermentation, so his pork was not as good as the kind mother used to make. But after riding a bicycle 33 miles on a prairie trail, my appetite was good and I tied into the food with a snap.

Bill got some brush from the river 13 miles away, made a dugout for the horses and got them working on a 14-inch breaker. He broke some land, but we had three dry years on the start, so waited for a crop till 1915 and '16 came along with good crops.

The talk of the district was that Bill was spending his good crop by adding another room to his shack. He went away one day and didn't come back until spring. When he came back, he had his boyhood girl friend with him—Jeanne.

I saw an article stating that the bottleneck in home construction in Vancouver was bathroom fixtures. With Jeanne it wasn't fixtures. It was the fact that the only place one could go to get a barrel of water, and be sure to get it, was the river, which was 13 miles away. However, Jeanne and Bill teamed up and broke another acre, got another cow and calf, set another hen, got some more little pigs, set out some trees, some more rhubarb plants, raspberry cane, another colt, and I mustn't forget the two nice baby girls.

Since one crop in eight was the rule Jeanne put up with her shack till

the bumper crop of 1927 and '28, when she got the nice home you see in the picture herewith. It's needless to say that it is well kept and appreciated. Then the crash came and a long drought, so the bank, mortgage companies, Aberhart and others said it was futile and people should move out. Bill and Jeanne said, "Nothing doing, we are going to stick here."

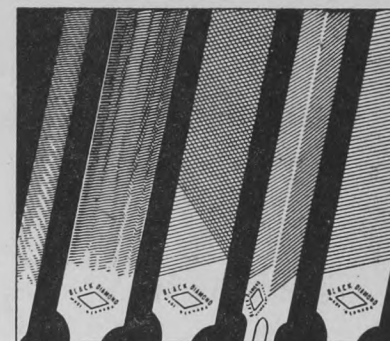
Then it was that Bill's boyhood training, and the advice we got from our genial and beloved James Murray, our first district agriculturist, stood him in good stead.

James Murray always advised farmers to arrange to grow their own living first. Bill had learned early the advantage of snow moisture and a non-alkali slough, so he would plant lots of spuds and garden around the slough. Then if the slough dried up he would plant it, too, and always had a few wagon boxes of spuds and winter vegetables.

Thirty-five years after the first time I was at Bill's, I drove in for some seed oats, since he has the Dominion Sub-Station. This is what I saw there.

A few Whitefaces browsing in crested wheatgrass, some calves on feed, two lovely Holsteins for milk, and turkeys, pigs, and chickens. Mrs. Heiden, in her usual cheerful way, called out and said, "You're just in time for dinner." The lovely dinner was made of home-made bread, home-grown vegetables, home-grown raspberries, home-grown chicken. Everything home-grown as a farmer's table should be, except tea, sugar and spices.

It wouldn't be fair not to make some mention of the boys who came out here in the 30's and started a Dominion Sub-Station on Bill's farm about the time a lot of people were giving up in despair. They were outstanding in the way of making themselves at home among the starved farmers, and would get their hands and feet into the mud, grease, or manure, like any farmer; and the farmer soon felt at home with them and were soon ready to take advice and give out their own experience. That way, the boys brought ideas and took some away.



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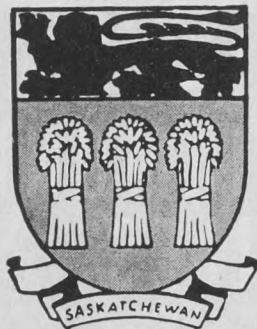
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ALBERTA AND SASKATCHEWAN *on their Golden Jubilee!*



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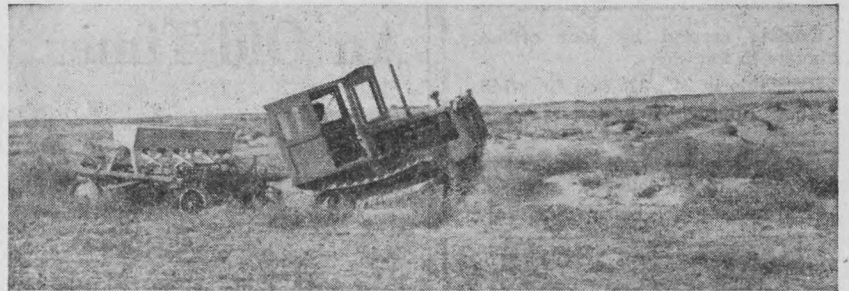
Speaking . . .

no matter how big or how wealthy an advertiser, he cannot afford to advertise a poor quality product. The advertiser's name or his brand on a product is your assurance that satisfaction is guaranteed.

Signs Of Progress



Sights such as this followed careless farming methods. Taken a few years ago in the Peace River area, where the grey-wooded soil erodes easily.



Much submarginal land that early settlers ripped up and starved on, was later recovered for pasture when the P.F.R.A. eventually fenced in millions of acres of it as community pastures.



Strip and contour cropping are the rewards of costly experience, which has shown that soil is exhaustible and that even the wind can blow it away.



The cream can has been popular only intermittently over most of the prairies. Hard times are conducive to a highly respectful opinion of it, and of the cows that fill it.



Municipal seed-cleaning plants like this one in Alberta, are a symbol of more recent efforts in the direction of cleaner seed and better farming, with an eye on improved income.

What's news at Inco?



16 hours saved between Montreal and Vancouver on new C.P.R. Streamliner "The

Canadian" pleases passengers and railway alike. Inco nickel plays a large part in the construction.

The outer skin is nickel-containing stainless steel. Interior hardware is nickel silver or stainless steel.

NICKEL STAINLESS STEEL TRAINS LIKE NEW AFTER 20 YEARS!

Newest stainless streamliner is "The Canadian"

IN 1934 the first stainless steel train made its initial run from Denver to Chicago. After 20 years and 2,700,000 miles of service, this silvery streamliner still carries on, as gleaming-bright as when new.

Today, the records established by this and many other stainless steel trains, have brought about a fleet of 173 new C.P.R. cars.

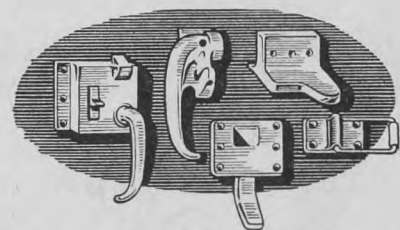
Because of stainless steel's high strength and the knowledge that it will never be weakened by corrosion, structural sections

can be made lighter, thus giving greater safety with less weight.

Weight saving and economy are also obtained by using stainless steel sheathing of a thinner gauge but designed with greater rigidity than previously. With this stainless, corrosion-resisting chromium nickel alloy, paint is not necessary.



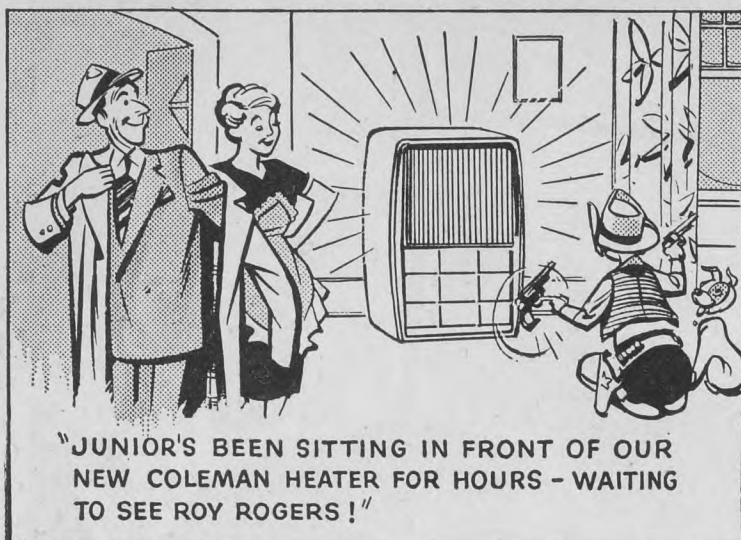
"The Romance of Nickel", a 72-page book, fully illustrated, will be sent free on request. Bulk copies supplied Secondary School teachers.



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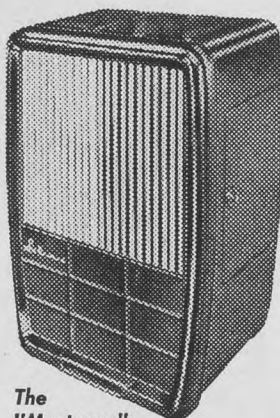
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Social Life In Pioneering Days

All work and no play was frowned on by the early homesteaders, too

by WALLACE GREY



Here are a large group of Saskatchewan homesteaders gathered for a picnic in 1911 at Eagle Creek, near Kinley. The band is deservedly prominent.

DURING the homesteading period the work was hard and the days were long. In the winter it was cold, and in the summer the mosquitoes were bad, and the weather was sometimes very hot. Nevertheless, the homesteaders found time to have a little fun.

Once a month, in the wintertime, social evenings were held in the church and the place was packed to capacity. Everyone came for miles around. The homesteaders or their families did the entertaining, and right well they did it too. One had been an organist of no mean repute in his home town. Another was a trained elocutionist, who made his audience cry, or split their sides with laughter. People came not only to hear the entertainment but to visit with friends whom they may not have seen for some time.

There were dances also, at individual homes, most of which had hardwood floors. Everyone danced, from the youngsters to the old white-haired men and women. Dances were mostly square dances, with the odd waltz, polka and schottische thrown in for good measure.

As time moved along a local Grain Growers Association was formed, and met in the church. I think they discussed everything under the sun. My wife's father had been a band master and choir leader in Ontario, started a brass band known as the Swarthmore United Grain Growers Band. One of the first, if not the first, in that part of the country. They practised in the church during the winter and on Saturday evenings during the summer, in a bandstand built for the purpose. Underneath this bandstand was a place where the ladies sold home-made ice cream, lemonade and candy, to raise money for their pet charities.

It was always a big night when the band paraded and played on the road in front of the church and store. Saturday night sports and visiting drew large crowds. There might be baseball, football, tennis and horseshoe pitching going on at the same time, with perhaps a horse race on the road.

In the early winter the young people—and some not so young—would pile into sleighs, or go on horseback, to one of the large sloughs. There they would clean off the snow with shovels, and enjoy an evening of skating. A huge

campfire on the bank would provide light. Later, an open-air skating rink was made at Swarthmore corner, with only a high board fence to keep the snow from drifting over the ice. All labor was voluntary, including the hauling of water in tanks for flooding, and keeping the ice clean.

A curling club came along in the twenties, and a pressure gas system was used for lighting. Again labor was voluntary. Curling was every day except Sunday; with anywhere from eight to ten rinks of men, and four or five women. There were also several moccasin dances on the ice every winter.

These winter enjoyments recall a young Englishman who homesteaded. When writing to his mother he made much of his winter fun, but said nothing of what he did in the summer. His mother made inquiry, to which he replied, "Oh! that day we go to the lake to have our annual bath, but last year it was too cold: we are hoping it will be warmer this summer." ✓

1910 Sask. Grain Growers' Convention

From the address of President E. N. Hopkins: "From the standpoint of grain production, the season of 1909 will go down in the history of the province as a banner year. From early spring to the late fall, the weather was all that could be desired enabling us to produce and garner a magnificent crop, which was not surpassed either in amount or in quality by that of any previous year. When I announced to you three years ago that in 1906 we produced 37,000,000 bushels of wheat and that it represented 20.40 bushels per acre, you cheered and justly so. When it was announced last year that we reached the 50,000,000-bushel mark in wheat production and that our total grain yield for 1908 was 100,000,000 bushels you were equally pleased. You would scarcely have believed then that in 1909 our grain production would be greater than that of the two previous years combined. Yet, this year we raised 90,215,000 bushels of wheat (an average of 22.1 bushels to the acre), besides 105,465,000 bushels of oats and 12,630,616 bushels of other kinds of grain, making a total production of 218,310,616 bushels. Now, gentlemen, this is a

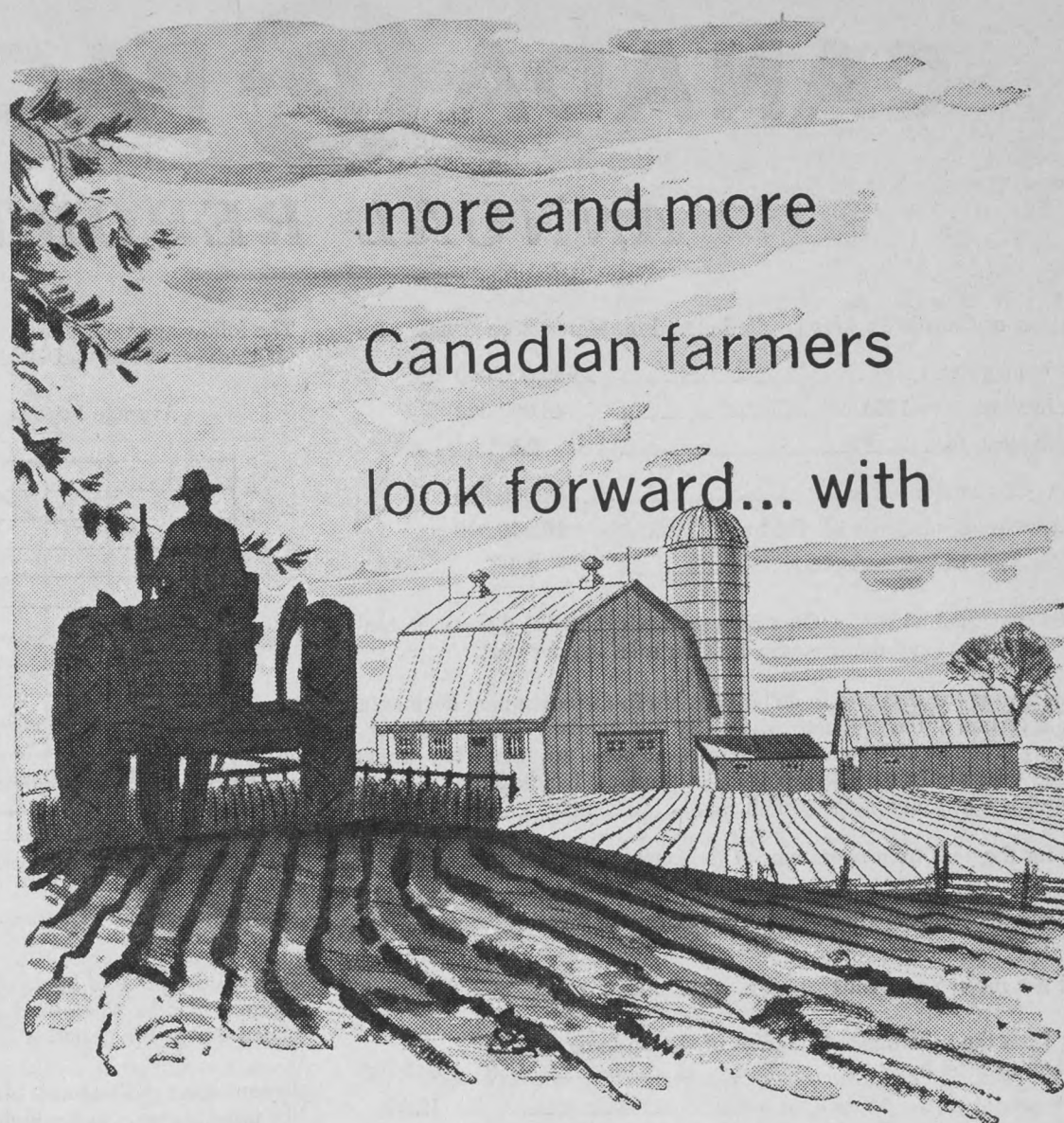
record to be proud of, and it is when we think of what we did this year and when we remember that only ten per cent of our arable land is under cultivation, that we begin to realize the possibilities of our fair province from a grain-producing standpoint." ✓

From the report of the secretary, F. W. Green: "A little over a year ago official reports gave 65,000 farmers in Saskatchewan. Now there are 100,000. One hundred thousand men on the land, with a vote, with the ruling power in their hands. Think of these men. Think of their families. Think of who they are. Think of all the goods they purchase. If these people are all able to get a fair deal in the exchange, is it necessary they should know any more than how to produce? Is the marketing of their product of any moment to them, or the purchase of their commodities? What kind of an organization do we need to meet the requirements of those 100,000 families on the land in Saskatchewan? Of course there are many who know it all. But most of us are lamentably blindfolded. Many of us have been caught on the Jericho road, robbed and left half dead. Who, do you expect will act the good Samaritan to us, and take us to the Inn, heal our wounds and pay for our restoration and education? I think we must provide our own good Samaritan and build our own Inn. Priest and Levite are about the same as of old, sure to pass us by." ✓

A letter to the convention from E. A. Partridge: "This great movement of the tillers of the soil in which we are ranked as leaders is only truly great and will only be truly successful so long as it remains fundamentally seeking after social justice wider than the advancement of self or even class interest—a desire to enjoy the fruit of our labors that we may the more efficiently discharge our duties as husbands, fathers and citizens, not forgetting, however, the duty we owe ourselves to cultivate our powers of body, mind and spirit that we may live as fully our individual lives, as the discharge of our duties to others will permit.

"Our chief limitation as a class is the lack of proper ideals as to what environment, opportunities, interests and activities are necessary to the leading of full and dignified lives. We so seldom remember that we—all of us, not simply a few who possess material wealth, position or power, are children of the Eternal Father and as such co-heirs to all the possibilities and possessions of an Infinite Universe. We lack dignity. We give honor to those who consume rather than to those who create. With the ballot in our hands we bow down to those who stole our national heritage and are daily stealing our opportunities to cherish our wives and educate our children, under forms of law which outrage all sense of human or divine justice in the mind of every honest, thoughtful man.

"High ideals as to the duties, purposes and possibilities of life, sound opinions on matters relating to the creation, division, distribution and application of wealth and power of the people who do the world's work to enact wise laws and compel their impartial enforcement—these are the things most to be striven for and this is the order in which they should come." ✓



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CANADA PACKERS

ANNUAL REPORT

The 28th year of Canada Packers Limited closed on March 30th, 1955.

Sales tonnage was 1,980,000,000 lbs.
 an increase over 1954 of 48,000,000 "
 equivalent to 2.5%

Dollar sales amounted to \$ 364,000,000
 a decrease compared with 1954 of 10,000,000
 equivalent to 2.7%

Fiscal 1954 contained 53 weeks. On a 52 week basis the 1955 increase in tonnage was 4.4 per cent and the decrease in dollar sales 0.8 per cent.

The explanation of the decrease in dollar sales lies in the continuing decline in the prices of certain of the products handled by the company. Canada Packers handles many products and each year the prices of some advance while others decline. The decrease in the average price of products handled has no exact meaning, but is a measure of the overall trend.

Net profit for the year from operations of the company in the packinghouse field was \$ 3,171,778

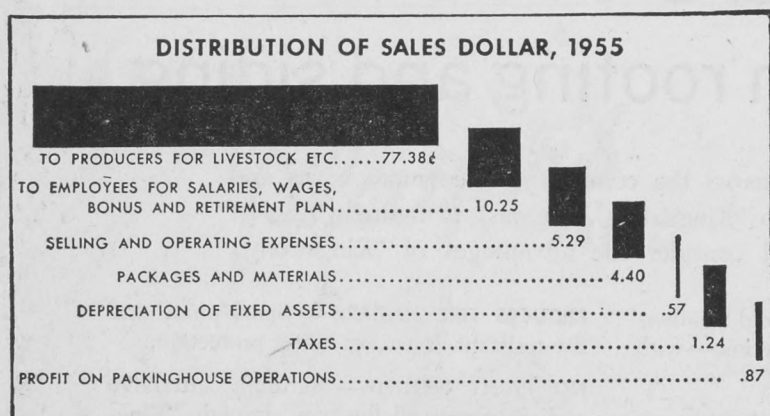
Income from other sources (including profit on sale of investments) was 544,874

Total net income was thus \$ 3,716,652

The profit from the packinghouse portion of the business was less than in 1954 by \$ 445,798
 a decrease of 12.3%

The net profit from packinghouse operations was—
 Per 100 lbs. sold—15.1c (or 1/7th of a cent per lb.)
 Per \$100.00 of sales—87c (or 7/8ths of a cent in each \$1.00 of sales).

The Chart below shows graphically how Canada Packers sales dollar was spent last year.



The decline in net earnings in the Company's packinghouse operations was due principally to a heavy loss on pork.

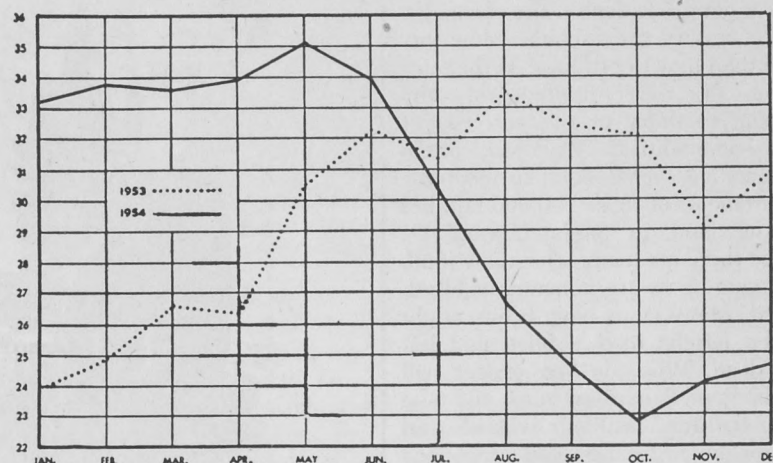
During the summer months of 1954, the price of pork and the price of hogs fell rapidly. This is illustrated in Table II.

TABLE II*

Monthly weighted average price per 100 pounds of dressed hogs sold on all public stock yards in Canada, 1954	May	\$35.09
	June	33.93
	July	30.25
	August	26.63
	September	24.56
	October	22.86

The following graph illustrates the difference in the trend of the price of hogs for the years 1953 and 1954.

Average Price per 100 lb., Dressed Hogs All Canada*



*Source: Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Livestock Market Review.

In 1953 the price of hogs followed the normal pattern, increasing during the summer months when marketings are lighter. In 1954 the price of hogs declined during the period of light marketings in the summer months.

In retrospect the reason is obvious. During the winter and spring of 1953-54, the price of pork was too high compared to other meats. The result of this was:

- Consumption of pork in Canada was curtailed.
- The resulting surplus of pork piled up in Canada in the form of freezer stocks. The total quantity of these freezer stocks, plus current marketings, was too great for Canada to consume at the prevailing price.

Then, between May and September 1954, the United States hog market fell from \$28.50 to \$20.00 per 100 pounds. (Basis top hogs alive on the Chicago market.)

The heavy freezer stocks as well as the current marketings had to be moved into consumption during the summer of 1954. Product which could not be consumed in Canada was shipped to the United States at low prices. These factors caused the sharp decline in the price of pork and hogs during the summer of 1954.

The freezer stocks which had been accumulated during the winter and early spring were sold at a heavy loss.

There is one very serious problem facing the Canadian Livestock Industry.

For several years, the quality of hogs produced in Canada has steadily declined. The following graph shows the percentage of "A" grade hogs in the total hogs graded in Canada since 1945:

Percent "A" Hogs of Total Hogs Graded in Canada*

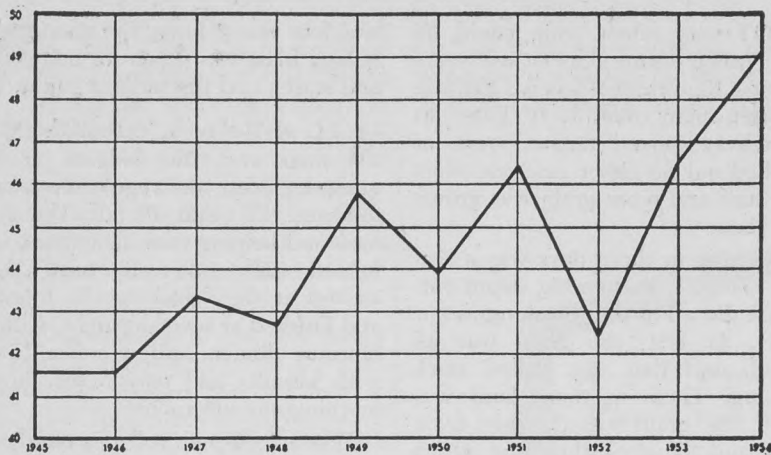


*Source: Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Livestock Market Review.

The decline in the quality of Canadian hogs is startling.
This decline occurred everywhere except in the Maritime Provinces.

During the same period the quality of hogs in the Maritime Provinces improved. The next graph shows the percentage of "A" grade hogs in the total hogs marketed in the Maritimes since 1945.

Percent "A" Hogs of Total Hogs Marketed in the Maritimes *



*Source: Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. Livestock Market Review.

This substantial increase in the percentage of "A" grade hogs is in marked contrast to the trend for all of Canada and shows what can be accomplished by careful attention to the problem.

The decline in quality of hogs is a very serious matter for the Canadian hog industry.

Canada has two principal export markets for products derived from hogs, — the United Kingdom and the United States. We are not at present shipping to the United Kingdom but it might easily happen that this would again become a very important outlet for Canadian hog products. During the war, Canadian bacon established a first class reputation with the British consumer. It would be a tragedy for the Canadian hog producer if we were not ready to take advantage of that fine reputation because the quality of our hogs had deteriorated. Our principal competitor in this market would be Denmark. The quality of hogs being produced in Canada today is certainly not good enough to permit substantial shipments of a quality that would compete with Danish product.

Our other export outlet, the United States, is a premium market. We cannot pay duty and freight on pork products and compete with the United States product on price. To do business in the United States we must sell at a premium price. We must produce a product that is worth the higher price we are compelled to get for it. The United States consumer will pay a premium for lean pork. Our second and third grade hogs will not produce a product that will command this premium.

The quality of hogs is equally important for the Canadian market. The Canadian housewife is discerning and rigid in her standard for lean pork products.

Raising the quality of Canadian hogs is important, most of all, to the hog producer. The return to the hog producer depends entirely on the price at which the packer is able to sell pork. This price depends to a large extent on the acceptance of our pork products by the consumers in both the Canadian and the export markets.

Canadian marketings and consumption of beef increased sharply in 1954. Table III reveals the figures.

TABLE III*

	Canadian inspected slaughterings	Estimated human population	Estimated Consumption of beef per capita	Estimated Total Consumption
1948	1,489,883	12,823,000	57.5 lbs.	737 million lbs.
1949	1,439,486	13,447,000	56.6 "	760 " "
1950	1,284,683	13,712,000	50.3 "	690 " "
1951	1,149,789	14,009,000	44.1 "	618 " "
1952	1,237,630	14,430,000	48.6 "	702 " "
1953	1,469,406	14,781,000	64.5 "	954 " "
1954	1,635,008	15,195,000	72.0 "	1,094 " "

*Source: Slaughterings: Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. Livestock Market Review. Population: Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Canadian Statistical Review. Beef Consumption: Dominion Bureau of Statistics Memoranda.

The increase in inspected cattle slaughterings for 1954 is equivalent to _____ 11.3%

In spite of this increase in marketings, the Canadian demand for beef was such that beef prices in Canada remained above those in the United States (after paying freight and duty) for most of the year. The reason for this is revealed in the consumption figures shown in Table III. The increased consumption of beef in Canada readily absorbed the increased production, and exports to the United States were again very small. (The United States is almost the sole export market for Canadian beef.)

Since 1948, shipments to the United States of cattle plus beef—expressed in terms of beef—have been as follows:

TABLE IV*

Shipments to the United States of Beef Cattle plus Beef (Cattle converted on the basis of 500 lbs. per head)	
1949	253,995,000 lbs.
1950	262,749,000 "
1951	176,777,000 "
1952 (two months)	5,083,000 " **
1953 (ten months)	28,771,000 " †
1954	35,283,000 "
1955 (six months)	9,678,000 "

*Source: Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. Livestock Market Review and Livestock and Meat Trade Report.

** Note (1)—From February 25th, 1952, to March 2nd, 1953, shipments to the U.S. were prohibited due to foot-and-mouth disease. During that period, the surplus of beef (in excess of Canadian consumption) was purchased by the Federal Government and sold to the U.K.

† Note (2)—For 1953 the period of shipments to the U.S. was ten months. For twelve months the surplus may be estimated at 35,000,000 lbs.

Over a period of ten years exports of pork products have declined even more dramatically. One wonders whether the export of meats from Canada might soon be a thing of the past.

One factor tends towards an opposite view. This was discussed in last year's Annual Report:

"Canada still produces a heavy surplus of grains. On Canadian farms the most perplexing problem is how to convert into cash, grains for which there is no immediate export outlet. To this problem there is, at present, only one solution—to convert the grain into secondary food products:—cattle, hogs, poultry and dairy products. Every fact points to a substantial increase in these secondary products throughout the next two or three years."

A substantial increase of beef was produced in 1954. But Canadian consumption was sufficient to absorb the increase and exports remained at a very low level. Increased livestock production is again expected in 1955. Thus far, hog marketings are up by 20% and the increase is expected to continue. Somewhat smaller increases are expected on cattle and calves.

Canada's carryover of grain at the end of this crop year will be somewhat smaller than last year. But the carryover will still be substantial, and no one would suggest that there will not be a heavy surplus of grain in the foreseeable future. These facts still point to substantial increases in livestock production. Whether Canada can continue to consume this increase or whether we shall again become a large exporter of meats is difficult to foresee.

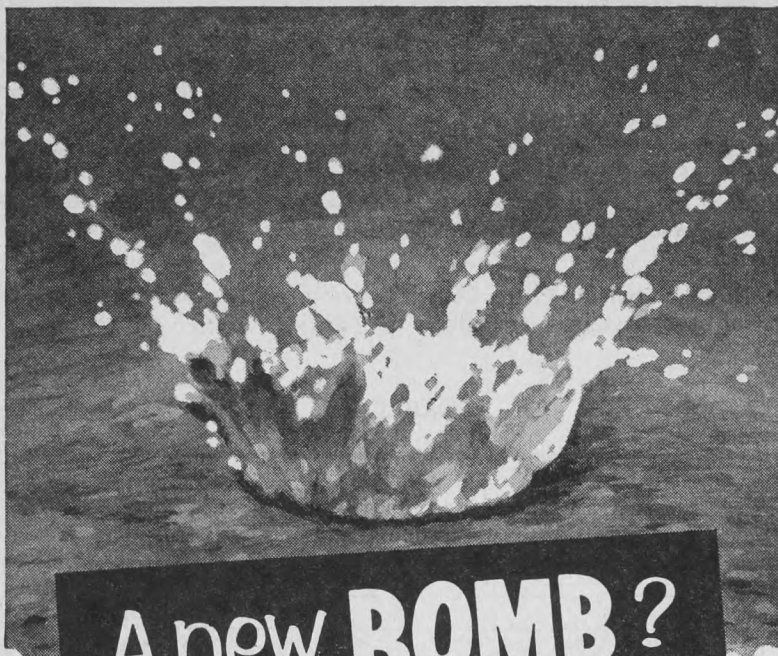
The Directors have pleasure in stating that relations with employees throughout the year have been harmonious and co-operative. On behalf of the shareholders, they express their warm appreciation to employees of all ranks.

W. F. McLEAN,
President.

Toronto, August 3rd, 1955.

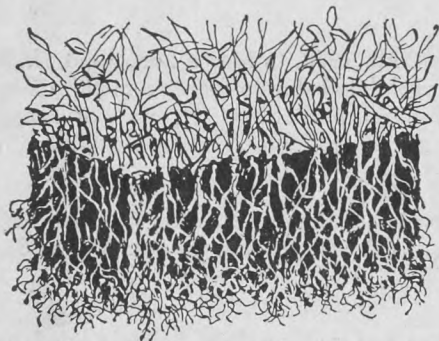
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Threshing in The Good Old Days

This is what it was like at harvest time before the combine shortened the job and made it easier

by CECIL GORDON

NOT very much grain could be grown during the first few years on the prairies, when a railway was often many miles away. Later, as the railway moved farther west, or branched out on either side, elevators were built and more grain was grown to fill them.

Threshing in those days was a real event. There were two big steam outfits that did all of the threshing in our district. At first, the grain was all stacked, and that was called stack threshing. Then, as more land was broken, the grain was threshed from stooks, and the stook threshing outfits were really big ones, with crews of anywhere between 16 and 26 men. There were ten or twelve teams of horses, eight or ten stook teams, two tank teams and a straw team, two to four field pitchers, and two or more spike pitchers.

A lot of people now would not know what a spike pitcher was. His job was to help the teamsters feed their loads to the separator, when they came in from the field, and to keep the loose straw cleaned up that gathered under the feeder. Then there was a separator man, an engineer, and fireman, as well as a bagger, and straw monkey. The bagger held the bags under the grain spout, and the straw monkey bucked the straw with which the engine was fired, from the back of the separator to the tender of the engine.

The fireman would be up at three o'clock every morning to have steam up by six o'clock, when it was time to start work. At five o'clock he would give a long blast on the whistle, which was a signal for the teamsters to roll out and get the teams fed, and harnessed. At a few minutes to six another long blast and everyone was supposed to be in the field ready for work. Two short blasts meant to stand clear. The throttle would be opened and the machinery set in motion; then a nod from the separator man and the pitchers would start feeding sheaves to the separator. One short blast signaled that something was wrong; three told the tank men that the water was

low; four was to hurry the grain teams. A long blast was given for noon stops and starts, and the same at night.

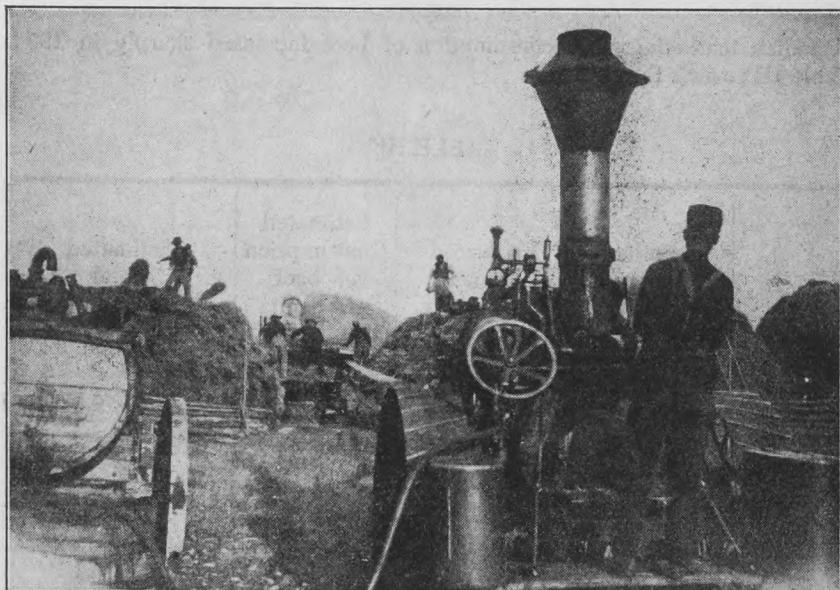
ALL of the men, except the grain men and the helpers at the granaries, were the regular crew who followed the outfit all fall. The grain men and helpers were neighbors, who helped each other in turn. Work started at six o'clock in the morning and finished at seven at night, with an hour at dinner, and a coffee break, with biscuits and maybe pie, in the morning and afternoon.

When 7:00 p.m. rolled around, if it looked like rain or snow, or if the job was nearly finished, a straw stack would be set on fire and the work continued by its light until done, or they were forced to stop because of moisture. The extra hours carried no overtime pay, but were just part of the job.

Hours for the men were long, but those for the women were longer. They had to be up in time to get the early breakfast ready by five o'clock; and after the supper meal all the dishes had to be washed. The washing alone was no small job, because every meal was a big one.

When one of those big outfits was at your place, and a wet spell came along, they would eat you out of house and home. That bunch of horses, too, could really get away with a lot of oat sheaves. Usually, however, the men would head for the nearest town where there was a hotel, and stay until it was dry enough to thresh again. The horses were just turned out to pasture.

Later on, the big outfits had cook cars and a couple of men or women cooks. If so, you paid more for your threshing per bushel. There were a couple of outfits that had several grain tanks that they would thresh full in the daytime, and in the evening after supper, haul them into town with the steam engine. This method, however, was discontinued because it was found to be a rather unsatisfactory way of handling the grain. v



[Sask. Cort. Arch. photo]

Most colorful symbol of farm mechanization for years was the large steam threshing outfit, with its large complement of men, horses and wagons.

A Birthday Present for Mother

Fifty years ago shopping presented difficulties especially for five-year-olds on the homestead

by IRENE LOUISE HARRISON

THE lonely little figure trudged down the prairie trail that wound through the trees and across the rolling hills. There were two tracks running parallel, but one was a little deeper than the other. When he came over the trail with his father in their old buggy on their way to the store, the buggy would tilt a little to one side.

His father had told him the reason for this. It seemed that the pioneers had simply followed an old buffalo run, when they made their first road upon settling in this locality. That was the reason the road wound about and was so crooked. The road allowances had not yet been surveyed, and it had been simpler to chop away the few encroaching trees and use the old buffalo path, which was headed in the right direction. There were few fences to impede their progress.

Mud oozed between his toes as he walked, for the wet seasons were upon Alberta. The flats along the shores of the lake and creek were flooded. Turning the whole countryside into a sea of water. Most of the settlers were depending on getting hay from the flats for winter feed, and the continued wet weather had discouraged many of them. Some had packed up their few belongings and gone to look for a place where it did not rain all the time.

The sun made a half-hearted attempt to peak around the edge of a cloud. At the rare sight, a robin and meadowlark sent a challenging duet into the bleary-eyed grey sky.

The boy heard the squish of a horse's feet behind him, and presently a neighbor, who lived five miles beyond his place, pulled up beside him and offered him a lift.

As the boy climbed into the rickety old buggy, he explained earnestly to the man, "I'm going to the store to get a box of chocolates for my mother's birthday."

The settler smiled in understanding. Six miles each way was quite a walk for a lad of five, but pioneers were made of sturdy stuff, and so were their children.

THE store was a clapboard structure. It even boasted a coat of white paint. A little room, built lean-to fashion at the side, and the words "Post Office" printed above the door.

There were several saddle horses tied to the hitching rack in front. There were also two rickety old democrats there; and a stone boat, with a forlorn looking grey team standing dejectedly before it. And, too, there was a spanking team of bays, hitched to a shining top buggy. They would belong to the "dandy" of the district. He was the only young man around who owned such a classy outfit; and all the young girls were casting speculative glances in his direction. He had come into the district a year ago, and it was well known that he had money

—all of a thousand dollars, someone whispered. It made the other young men of the district regard him with

envy, and a little suspicion. They joked about him a lot, and called him "The Earl."

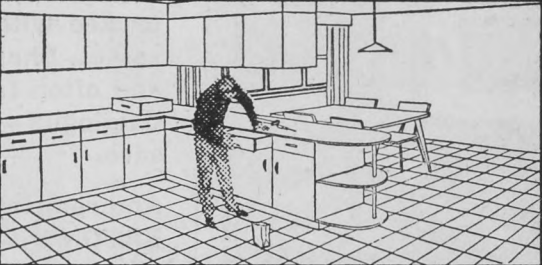
Three or four men were leaning against the crude counter, helping themselves to soda biscuits from the huge, open barrel sitting there. The big pot-bellied stove that always glowed red in the winter, was cold now, but the talk went on around it just the same. Many of the world's weighty problems had been threshed out about the old stove.

The mingled smell of calico, leather and kerosene, assailed their nostrils as they entered. Two women stood at the dry goods counter looking hungrily at the bright calico. They fingered it with toil-roughened hands. Their shoulders were a little stooped with hard work, and their eyes had lost the gladness of youth long before they should have, but when they saw the pretty calico, they felt young again. It transplanted them to the easier life they had known before they followed

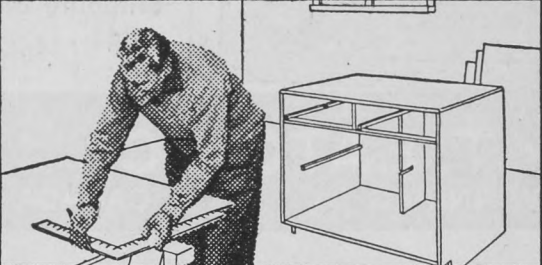
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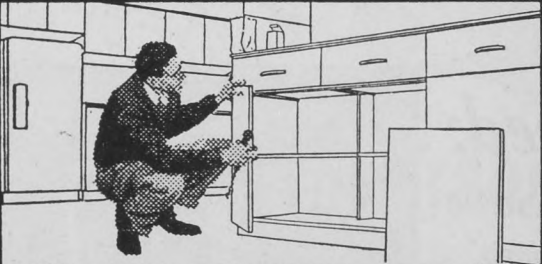
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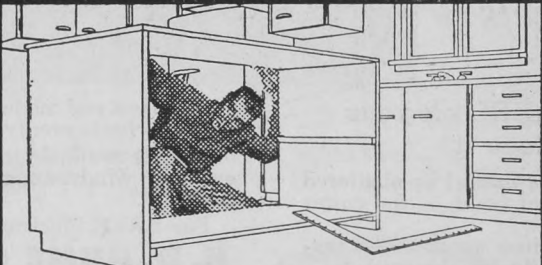
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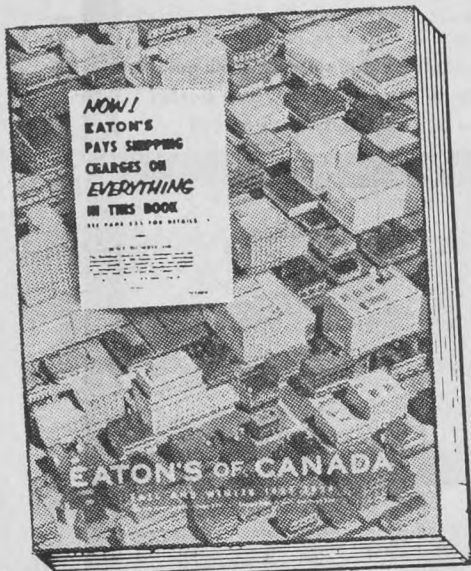
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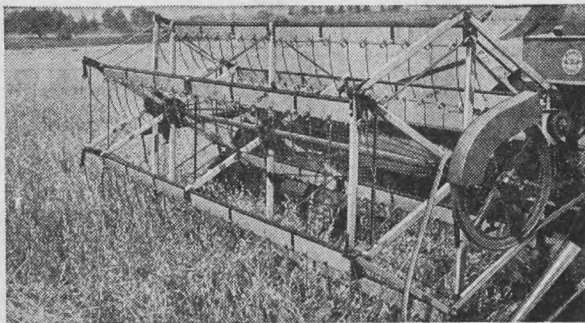
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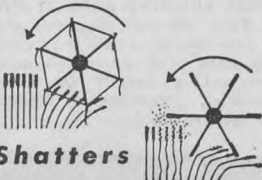
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the men of their choice to this strange,
new, barren land.

Tommy fingered the new coins in
his pocket. He wished that he had
enough to buy his mother a length of
the calico. Money was a nuisance.
Other people bought things without
it. The jovial storekeeper simply wrote
something in a big book that he kept
on the counter and no one worried
about money, but Tommy's father was
a careful buyer.

"What we cannot pay for, we will
do without," he told his family, and
there was not one of them that would
dare oppose him, when he spoke like
that, stern and a little hard. They had
great respect for him, too, and time
had showed them that he was nearly
always right. He could get through
where many failed, because he did
not have debts.

Tommy was lucky to find a small,
dusty box of chocolates half hidden in
the conglomeration of articles that lay
on the shelves. The nearest railway
was more than 30 miles distant, and
most of the supplies were brought up
the Battle River on huge barges. They
were then brought up Dried Meat
Lake and, finally, up the creek bear-
ing the same name as the lake.

They were unloaded just a mile
from the store. In the winter the sup-
plies had to be drayed across country
by teams. Naturally, with supplies so
hard to come by, precious space was
not often wasted with luxury articles
like chocolates. The essentials had to
be considered first.

A weary woman came through the
door. In her toil-worn hands she car-
ried a pan, covered with a white cloth.
She set the pan on the counter and
unwrapped another package that she
carried. Inside it were some tallow
candles that she had made. She
wanted to trade them and the butter

The older I grow, the more I
distrust the familiar doctrine that
age brings wisdom.—H. S. Mencken.

in the pan for some flour and tea. An-
other careful buyer, Tommy thought,
and in spite of himself he felt a little
glow of respect for her.

Tommy turned toward the door,
and the neighbor who had given him
a lift, hoisted a grocery box to his
shoulder as he passed the counter and
joined him. When the lad reached
home, he found his mother and dad
nearly frantic with worry. They had
been searching for him all the after-
noon, and were just going to notify
the other settlers to get out a search
party, with evening coming on and all.

Tommy handed the gift that he had
bought to his mother, and she looked

at him fondly, too touched to scold
or punish him, and then she burst into
tears.

The weary little lad looked at her
in astonishment, and then shrugged
his shoulders, as if the problem were
too great for him to solve, and strolled
from the room. Women and their
ways, he thought, he never would un-
derstand them.

He tried valiantly to whistle "See-
ing Nellie Home," as he helped his
father with the chores that evening.
He had often heard his dad whistle
the tune, and the notes came so sweet
and clear from his lips. It irritated him
that he couldn't make it sound at all
like Dad did; and he wondered if he
would ever be able to whistle like his
father, whom, he fondly believed, was
the greatest whistler in all the world.

The little lad was very tired that
night, and for once he went straight
to bed without arguing. Almost at
once his golden curls spread out on
the bleached flour sack that served for
a pillowslip on his bed, his breathing
became even, and he was soon lost in
the land of dreams. V

Our Jubilee House

STILL standing in our yard and
weathering the storms of time is
our old log house which was my
home as a child. The house is in good
condition and is held together by the
original mud used when it was
erected. It was built in 1901 by Mike
Leebe who homesteaded this farm
near Bawlf, Alberta. Mr. Ed Kremin,
still residing in Ohaton, bought the
farm from Mr. Leebé, who lived there
for several years.

In 1908, my father, William John
Webster, from Norwood, Ontario, pur-
chased the property from Mr. Kremin.
He reached Bawlf by following the old
trail eastward from Wetaskiwin about
40 miles, driving a team of mules
hitched to a buggy.

His decision to settle near Bawlf
was due to the fact that he knew the
Lew Kirkpatrick and Dave Fraser
families, from his home town in On-
tario. They operated a large hardware
business in Bawlf where they outfitted
many homesteaders in those days.

My parents were faithful readers of
The Grain Growers' Guide, as long as
they lived. Ultimately The Grain
Growers' Guide became The Country
Guide, of which my family are con-
stant readers. They like the interesting
stories, pictures and farm information
which it contains.—Mrs. P. MacLeod,
Ohaton, Alta. V



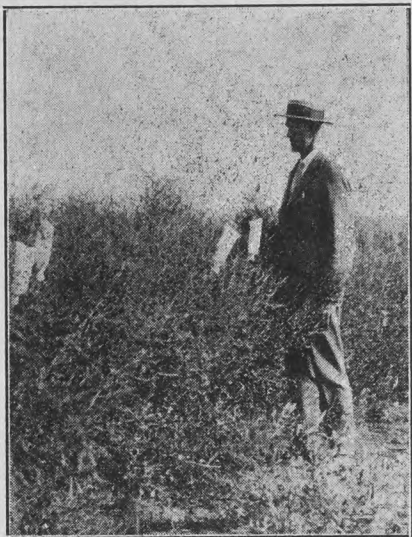
The old log house, built in 1901, is still in fairly good condition. A mute
testimony to the hardships and satisfactions of pioneer days.

Machines and Production, 1905-55

Continued from page 7

wan and the Canadian Pioneer Problems Committee in representative areas of both provinces, showed clearly that those farmers in 1930 who had been farming for 15 to 25 years had secured the highest average annual increases in net worth. Those who began between 1915 and 1920 were the least well off, except for those whose farming experience dated back of the year 1900.

IT would be wrong to believe that prior to the formation of Saskatchewan and Alberta, no agencies had been available for the encouragement of good farming. The North-West Territories had been governed by a Lieu-



Dr. L. E. Kirk, later dean of agriculture, University of Saskatchewan, with sweet clover breeding material.

tenant - Governor and Council appointed by the Dominion Government. Until 1888, there was very little money available to provide for more than law and good intentions. Nevertheless, the Territorial Government prior to this time dealt with bulls, stallions, stray animals and agricultural societies. The latter were authorized in 1887, though at least half a dozen had been formed as early as or shortly after, 1884. In 1888, the Experimental Farm at Indian Head was established, as well as one at Brandon, in Manitoba. Farmers' Institutes were provided for in 1890, but the ordinance was repealed in 1894, because of possible conflict with agricultural societies. In 1891 the Dairy-men's Association of the North-West Territories was legalized, and in 1896 the Western Stock Growers' Association was incorporated. A Department of Agriculture had been created within the Territorial Government in 1877, and lecturers were provided for farmers' meetings. Livestock judging schools were instituted in 1903; and in 1904, cheap excursions to the Indian Head Experimental Farm were organized, in co-operation with the C.P.R. Purebred animals were brought into the Territories from the East; and by 1904, the number of purebred swine was great enough that the government arranged purebred sales of animals bred locally. The Territorial Department of Agriculture was also interested in creameries, cheese factories, meat packing plants and the sugar beet industry. In 1906, Alberta

produced more than a million pounds of creamery butter.

There was thus a solid foundation established, on which the departments of agriculture of the newly formed provinces could build. Important in this building was the establishment of two provincial universities, at Saskatoon and Edmonton, within a few years. The Federal Government expanded its system of experimental areas, by setting up an experimental station at Lethbridge in 1906, at Lacombe in 1907, at Fort Vermilion in 1908, and at Beaverlodge in the Peace River area, in 1915. In Saskatchewan, experimental stations were established at Rosthern in 1909, at Scott in 1911, and at Swift Current in 1921, with a further station at Melfort, in 1935. Complementary to the work of the stations, were scores of illustration stations and experiment sub-stations, as well as a series of science laboratories which were added in later years: The Laboratory of Plant Pathology at Saskatoon, in 1916; the Rust Research Laboratory at Winnipeg, in 1925; the Laboratory of Plant Pathology at Edmonton, in 1926; and the Forage Crop Laboratory at Saskatoon, in 1932. Supplementing these agencies was an experimental station established at Morden in Manitoba, in 1918, to serve the three provinces horticulturally. Likewise, two forest nursery stations were set up for the distribution of trees suitable to prairie conditions: the first at Indian Head in 1903 and the second at Sutherland, near Saskatoon, in 1913.

A notable contribution to agricultural education was begun in Alberta in 1913, when a system of schools of agriculture was established. Of the six schools originally operated, four have fallen by the wayside, and only the schools at Olds and Vermilion remain. A third, however, established at Fairview in the Peace River area a few years ago, serves the vast northern area of the province. In Saskatchewan, aside from university courses, work was started with farm boys and girls in 1911. Likewise, a school of agriculture was incorporated into the university structure, so that a two-year general course would be available, as well as the four-year degree course.

What we now speak of as extension, existed long before the provinces were formed. It has been formalized in Canada, however, since 1907, when the first agricultural representatives were appointed in Ontario. This plan of putting a trained agriculturist into a specific area where he could better help farmers, spread within a few years and has now become a basic factor in the improvement of farm practice, in all provinces.

FARM science, as we know it today, is largely a product of the twentieth century. What existed up to 1900 was very largely a combination of the best in the art and practice of handling plants and animals, coupled with such information as could be applied from the natural sciences of the day, such as botany, entomology, chemistry and bacteriology. No man had hitherto existed, except one, and he was dead—, who could consciously and intelligently plan the production of a new variety of any crop, except by the slow process of selection, or the more or less blind crossing of two species or varieties. Up to that time, farm machinery and equipment was

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largely a matter of invention, with subsequent modification on the basis of trial and error. Today, such machines still arise as a result of need on the part of farmers, but this need is now much better served by intelligent engineering research. Little, if anything, was known of vitamins and their importance in the bodies of animals, until 1910, or later. Animal breeding was even more handicapped than plant breeding, because of the time involved in raising a new generation to breeding age. The first chemicals for the control of weeds in grain crops, principally mustard, were

used around the turn of the century. Both copper and iron sulphate were used. Commercial fertilizers were used to a very limited extent. The first soil survey in Canada was made about 1920.

The period when the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta were formed was a fortunate one with respect to the development of plant science. It was only in 1900 that the revolutionary work of Gregor Mendel, on the inheritance of plant characters (first presented in 1865—and lost) was rediscovered. Mendel's work, which dealt with the behavior of unit char-

acters and the proof of direct inheritance, put plant breeding on a firm straight road for the first time, and permitted the plant breeder to work with assurance toward specific ends. Two years later came the DeVries theory about plant mutations; and in 1910 Thomas Hunt Morgan announced the gene theory.

Marquis wheat was first introduced for trial in the prairie provinces in 1907, and led all other varieties by 1915. Since then, hundreds, perhaps thousands, of new varieties which were the result of planned scientific breeding, have appeared. Today,

varieties can be developed to meet specific requirements. It is even possible for the plant breeder to synthesize a variety of bread wheat from uncultivated plant species. The number of chromosomes in the cells of a plant may be doubled by the use of the drug Colchicine; and by using radioactive material the plant breeder may induce mutations (strikingly different plants) to arise within a variety. Time, money and a sufficient number of well-trained plant breeders are all that are now required for science to produce a new variety to order.

The improvement of plants and animals, however, is no longer a matter of one individual achieving, and repeating, substantial results. Only an institution such as a university, or the Experimental Farms Service of the

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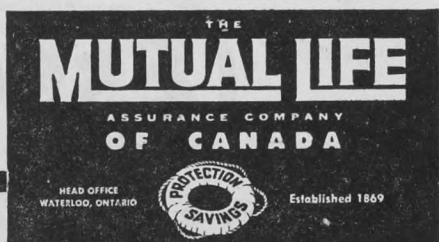
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ML-11-55FB



Prof. E. A. Hardy was head, Dept. of Agr. Engineering at the Univ. of Sask., from 1917 until retirement.

Canada Department of Agriculture, could produce such a product as the Lacombe hog, recently announced, or Selkirk wheat.

In animal science, great strides have also been made, notably in the field of nutrition, and much more recently, with progeny testing. The dairy cattle breeder has been successful in combining conformation with greatly increased milk and fat production. The 200,000-pound lifetime record is not surprising, though still rare. In beef cattle rearing, the steer that will gain 2.5 to 3 pounds per day, by a combination of breeding and feeding, is no longer a rarity. Pigs normally require 450 pounds, or more, of grain or concentrate, for each 100 pounds of gain, but the same gain can now be obtained on pigs of the right kind, properly managed, on 300 pounds of feed. In poultry raising, beekeeping and horticulture, similar strides have been made during the last 50 years.

WHEN Saskatchewan and Alberta were created as provinces, and for a long time afterwards, there were no suitable forage crops for the drier areas. The ordinary clovers and grasses found in mixed farming areas were unsatisfactory. Crested wheatgrass arose as the source of immediate help, and, under testing and selection, achieved widespread utility. As early as 1916 the University of Saskatchewan achieved a drought-resistant sweet clover which was

named Arctic. Other grasses have been thoroughly tested and found useful over the years, such as Russian rye grass. The virtue of mixtures of brome and alfalfa have been discovered and exploited. A whole new seed-growing industry has developed in the grey-wooded soils in the north, where legumes, in addition to providing a commercial seed crop, serve a very useful purpose by conditioning and improving the soil. A creeping-rooted alfalfa is on the way for semi-arid areas, from the Experimental Station at Swift Current.

As one of the peaceful by-products of the atomic age, radioactive tracers have been used for several years to tell scientists whether plants are actually getting the plant food that is in the soil, or using the fertilizers that have been added to boost yield. Similarly, the same materials have been used to follow the behavior of insects. Science has also made possible the development of simple soil tests, which the farmer can apply himself to a growing crop, and determine within a few minutes whether the crop is being held back for lack of some essential element. Graded farm products, pen barns, artificial insemination, record of performance testing of animals, registered seed, milking machines, dairy sanitation, specialization, and scores of new industrial uses for farm products, are other bits and pieces of the entire picture of the evolution of farming during the 50 years now ended.

Arising out of the disastrous experiences, which faced nearly all prairie farmers at some time during the hungry thirties, there has been a much greater appreciation of the need for conserving soil and water resources. Particularly in semi-arid areas, the trash cover is now standard practice, to prevent blowing. Strip cropping on fairly level land serves the same purpose. Contour cropping on sloping land prevents gullying and conserves moisture. A cloddy surface tends to check blowing before the wind can lift the finer parts into the air. Subsurface tillage, as with the Noble blade, permits weed-killing and helps the soil to absorb more moisture, without disturbing stubble, or trash cover. The chisel cultivator tends to produce a cloddy surface. Scarcely one of these practices was followed in the twenties.

Another result of the drought and crop failures of the thirties was to bring the federal government into the conservation picture by the means of the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act. Submarginal lands were taken out of cultivation and turned into community pastures. Run-off water in streams and gullies was conserved by many thousands of dugouts. Small irrigation projects often accompany stock-watering dams. Large irrigation schemes such as the St. Mary River Development Project were instituted. None of these programs were deemed practicable before desperate need arose, but nearly all of them combined, in greater or less degree, with plant and animal science and engineering, to achieve enormously beneficial results.

WHAT all of this means can be illustrated by the experience on this continent during World War II, when production was not only maintained, but substantially increased, despite a very heavy drain on man-

power. It was calculated in the United States that if the farm production secured in 1944 had been obtained with the machines and methods of World War I, it would have required nine billion more man-hours of work, or 4.5 million more farm workers, to produce the same amount of food.

All of these changes, developments and advances that have been mentioned as having occurred during the last 50 years, are but a fraction of those that comprise all that science and technology have produced in this century. The development and use of irrigation, canning crops, special varie-

ties of vegetable crops suitable for freezing, the growth of the sugar beet industry, the addition of rapeseed, hybrid corn and field peas as field crops, the discovery and use of antibiotics, the establishment and growth of farmers' co-operative marketing organizations, the spread of rural electrification, and many other distinct improvements over the past, have occurred within the lifetime of the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta.

There is an old saying to the effect that everything changes but change itself. This is undoubtedly true of conditions and circumstances, but human

nature has remained pretty much unchanged. Most farmers are individualists, by preference. The very rapidity of the changes that we have witnessed during the last half century has apparently bewildered many, who apparently have given up trying to keep up. The prospects appear to be that changes will be even more rapid in the next half century. If one man in agriculture today produces enough food for 15 other people, it may well be that he must be able to produce enough for 25 or 30 people 50 years from now, or be discharged from the ranks of the industry as incompetent. V

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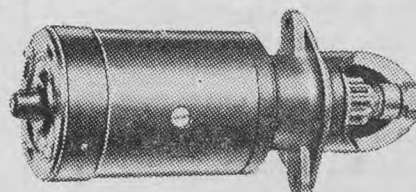
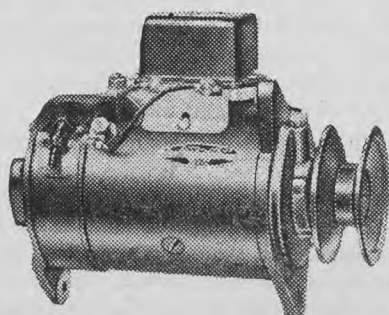
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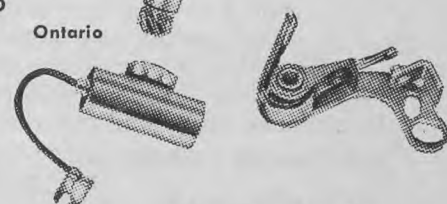
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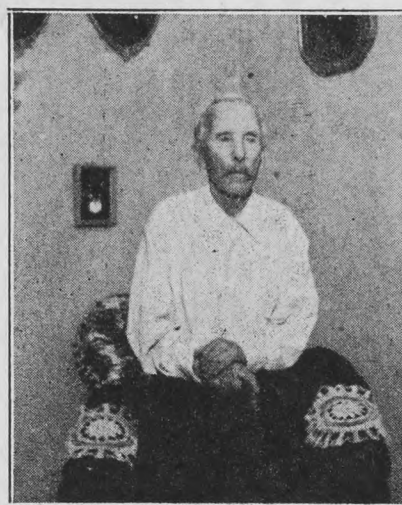
NOTE — Farms cannot be inspected after freeze-up.

Canada's First Ukrainian

Well and active at 97, Wasyl Eleniak lives at Chipman, where he settled long before Alberta became a province

by DON BARON

WHEN Wasyl Eleniak left his wife and parents in the Western Ukraine in 1891, and sailed for Canada, he didn't dream that he was the forerunner of a mighty immigration by his people to a new land. But he found Canada truly a land of opportunity. He worked for two years on a farm near Winnipeg, and then returned to his native village. He had been raised there on the great plains of southeast Europe, the oldest of four children on an eight-



Wasyl Eleniak of Chipman, Alta., is well and active at 97. He is Canada's first Ukrainian settler.

acre farm. For generations, his people had been oppressed.

Now, soon after his return home, he set out with his wife and ten other families for Canada, this time for good. This was the beginning of Ukrainian immigration to Canada.

It is 67 years since Mr. Eleniak made his first trip across the waters. He is 97 years old. But he is still hale and active. A small, spare man, he can easily climb the stairs in the farm house of his son John, near Chipman, Alberta, or stroll out to the barn to inspect the stock. At mealtime, he still takes his place with the working men to enjoy the fresh-baked buns and the generous home-cooked meals.

His life has spanned an era in the history of his people. It was a difficult era too, for these people who neither spoke the tongue of Canadians nor understood the new land.

As was to be their custom in Canada, they crossed the fertile but open prairie, and finally found the partly treed land to the north which suited their taste. They came without material wealth. For generations, many of them had been serfs. They lacked education; but they knew, better than those of many other nationalities who would soon be filling the West, how to get along without money.

With an axe and spade, and little more, a man and his wife could go into the bush and make a home. Trees were shaped to logs and smaller ones to rafters. Tall swamp grasses made a thatch for the roof. Then, clay from the subsoil was mixed with water and chopped straw, to plaster the walls

inside and out. Even the stove, framed of sticks, was plastered with this mud. The stove might boast two fireplaces to warm separate rooms while the top of the stove served as a cozy bed for the youngsters. Even with such simple construction it was said that the houses would be warmer than many built of sawn lumber, by wealthier settlers.

These Ukrainian people cleared the land and plowed the soil and turned it into profitable farms. Many of them, in the next generation, turned readily to the life of their new country, to enter and become leaders in many fields besides agriculture. Engineering, music, politics, and many others caught their interest, and the purposeful Ukrainian-Canadians were successful. Others in their home districts, retained their traditional beautifully embroidered and colorful dress for festive occasions. They gained the admiration of other Canadians for their meaningful folk dance. And in their most highly developed art, choral singing, which was developed through 900 years of church ritual, their choirs have thrilled many thousands of fellow Canadians.

In half a century, Ukrainian settlers had gained a respected place in the Canadian nation, and in 1941 Ukrainians all over Canada celebrated the 50th anniversary of the arrival in Canada of their first representative. A few years ago, when Parliament passed the Canadian Citizenship Act, the small, spare figure of Wasyl Eleniak stepped forward to receive citizenship at a special ceremony in the Supreme Court of Canada, at Ottawa. Only a year ago, in 1954, he was feted at Chipman, where he first settled, when a memorial was unveiled commemorating the first settlement by the people from the Ukraine. Acknowledging these honors, the erect, white-haired little man said, in his native tongue (he never mastered English): "I never dreamed that so many sons of my native country would hold such important positions here. Only Canada offers such opportunities."

Mr. Eleniak is a proud man today. Living only four miles from the place where he originally homesteaded, he is in a district noted for its good farms. Some of the country's best livestock graze its fields. Three of his sons now farm in the community; and more than 85 grandchildren and great grandchildren are growing up in the free land which he, of all his people, was the first to see.

FROM VOLUME I, No. 1

**The Guide do you hear,
Is a dollar a year,
Don't wait for a dun,
Just send us the mun.**

—Grain Growers' Guide, June, 1908

Dust to Dust

Continued from page 12

Again, slowly and fearfully, she approached the show window, the only window for her. Would some lucky city woman have her hat? No, it was still there. It seemed to smile and wave to her. She wondered what the price would be. Timidly she entered the revolving doors. Fearfully she stopped a hurrying salesgirl near the show window. Said Helen, "I would like to look at that hat," as she pointed to her dream of the last two nights.

The salesgirl glanced critically at Helen's coat. Her eyes glistened enviously as she noted the striking figure which the shabby coat could not conceal. The salesgirl purred like a well-fed cat as she held out the hat, the only hat. "We have this one just in from Montreal, one of the latest. It is priced at ten dollars, but would you want such an expensive hat?"

"Ten dollars," thought Helen. There would be hardly any money left. Could she dare buy it? Must she go another year without a new coat? Carefully she took this mass of flowers and leaves and linen in her sun-tanned fingers. Tearfully she peeped in the mirror. There was only one answer—no coat. She must have the hat.

What would Jimmy say? Carefully she carried the precious bundle to the hotel. Jimmy smiled admiringly as she tried on her treasure before the little hotel room mirror. He said, "I wish I could get you a dozen hats like that. You've earned a lot more." Carefully she wrapped up the precious mass of foliage. She was not going to get any Alberta soil on this hat on the dusty train. No! Next week there was going to be a United Farmer Community picnic at home to be followed by a dance. There she would wear her new hat for the first time. How thrilled she would be as the neighboring farm women would gaze admiringly at the wonderful hat, new from the city.

SHRILLY the telephone rang in the little room. Jim Webster picked up the receiver. A voice from the other end buzzed over the wires. Bad news from home. Fred Patrick died yesterday. Heart failure. Funeral tomorrow. Can you make it home for the funeral? "Yes," gasped Jim, "we can make it," as he hung up the receiver.

Dazedly they talked about Fred, their nearest, their very best neighbor. President of the U.F.A. local. A splendid community leader. Now dead and gone. What a loss that would be to the whole community. Their little holiday was over. They must get home to pay their last respects to all that was earthly of Fred Patrick.

Once more they boarded the train. Once again their faces were turned to the little prairie town. Long hours later the train rattled and rolled into the home station. They came down the car steps, Helen clutching carefully her precious hat, Jimmy manfully struggling with numerous other parcels, including his own suit. They must hurry. It was almost time for the funeral service to commence. Hurrying to a nearby restaurant they washed and removed some of the grime of the dusty railway coaches, and walked rapidly to the little village church, now sadly in need of freshening paint.

The streets were lined with buggies, democrats, saddle horses and, yes, a few, very few motor cars. Mostly Henry Fords and earlier creations. The whole community was there to pay their last respects to Fred Patrick. The little church was jammed to the doors.

Too late, Helen realized that she could hardly carry her precious hat into such a jam of people. Jimmy realized her problem. He said, "give the parcel to Elmer Petersen, the church caretaker. Regretfully she handed Elmer the bulky parcel. "Will you take care of this for us?" "Sure," Elmer replied, "I will put it with the rest."

Not realizing the import of his words, Helen and Jimmy walked slowly to the front of the crowded church where two seats had been reserved for them. There in front of them were the remains of their friend and neighbor. All around the coffin and piled on it were the floral tributes of respect from the farm families for miles around, few, if any, of which had come from a florist shop. Garden flowers, sprigs, sprays and wreaths; and some artificial flowers as a homely tribute to a good neighbor.

Slowly the little country minister started the service. The little organ solemnly pealed out with the opening hymn. The little minister prayed, and then he spoke of the deceased. Those farmers' heads were bowed. Here were the greying heads and the sun-tanned, bronzed features of those who had come into a new land with Fred Patrick. He who was now so still before them. Those same farmers with the lines of care and discouragement already written deep on their faces. And the younger people, like Helen and Jimmy. On their faces, too, were engraved the first telltale lines of trial and difficulty.

HELEN glanced down the aisle. What on earth was the caretaker carrying up the aisle? Yes, it was her precious hat, in all its glory of leaf and flower. Stupid Elmer had mistaken her hat for a floral tribute to Fred Patrick. Carefully he placed it on top of the coffin. Now what would she do? Hurriedly she clutched Jimmy's arm. "Look," she whispered, "old Elmer has put my hat on the coffin for a wreath. What on earth shall I do? How can I get it back and how can I ever wear it after this?" Jimmy gasped, but immediately his practical mind sought for a solution of the problem. Finally his hand clasped hers and giving it a reassuring squeeze, he whispered, "Don't worry, everything will be alright. In that mass of flowers and stuff nobody can pick out your hat and remember it afterwards. And to get it back, we will wait around the graveyard until everybody has gone away and we can pretend to be looking at some of the inscriptions on the few tombstones there are there. Then we can go up to the grave and get the hat, and nobody will know anything about it." Somewhat reassured, Helen relaxed. What a good pal Jimmy was, anyway! How he always found a way out of their troubles! She hoped this would be one of the times.

Slowly and solemnly the little minister concluded. He talked of the good service the departed neighbor had done the community. He suggested that this example be followed. Helen

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heard but little of the service. Her mind was on that hat up there on the coffin in that mass of flowers. It seemed to nod approval at every word the preacher said. It seemed to be waving farewell to Fred Patrick. Regretfully, those bronzed faces gazed down on the still, cold face of their once good neighbor. Slowly the funeral cortege of buggies, democrats, wagons and saddle horses, proceeded to the little cemetery, placed in one of the beauty spots of the rolling prairie—a rambling hillside with several clumps of willows, a few poplars.

HERE all that was mortal of Fred Patrick was to be laid to rest. Sun-tanned, work-calloused hands gently and slowly removed the coffin from the democrat; gently and reverently the remains were laid by the open grave. Next came the flowers, the wreaths and sprays, yes, and along, too, came Helen's hat, the proudest, the finest creation of all. Tightly Helen grasped Jimmy's hand. If only Jimmy's plan would work. Oh, if something should go wrong. What if somebody should step on her hat when they were filling up the grave?

Soon the short graveside service was finished. Again they sang a hymn. The flowers were removed to one side. Still Helen's hat was conspicuously on top. The coffin was placed over the open grave, and ropes were put under for lowering. Again the little minister gave his parting message. Hand in hand, Helen and Jimmy watched the slowly lowering coffin.

The little minister gazed around for some floral emblem to accompany the remains to its last resting place. Oh, horror of horrors! His eyes rested on Helen's hat. Dazedly she stared with wide-open eyes as the preacher took up her hat and reverently placed it on the slowly descending coffin. As the clouds of earth and little clouds of dust descended on the coffin of Fred Patrick, they also descended and crushed one of the dreams of Helen Webster. "Dust to dust," the little minister had said.

The Friends Colony

Continued from page 9

for two or three weeks by the Cut Knife Creek, about 20 miles away, to cut the year's supply of fuel. It was mostly fire-killed poplar and made very good wood. We would haul it to the south hill by the creek and pile it there, cord upon cord, to be hauled home during the winter. There it would be stacked in what were known as "teepees"—three poles tied together at the small end, then stood on end as a tripod. The wood was built around them on end, so that it would not drift over with snow. It was then the job for the young boys of each family to saw it into stove-lengths, with the bucksaw. Our first winter was not too bad, as we found out later by comparison with some that followed it.

Because all our supplies had to be brought in from Battleford the men would leave home around midnight, get there sometime the next day, do their business, spend the night in town, leave early the next morning and reach home late that night. No one had much money. I remember

Dad telling of the time he first landed in Battleford with five dollars and five children. He, however, was a carpenter and got many odd jobs that kept us going during the first years.

DURING the second year, more people came in, a number from our own Grey County in Ontario. Schools were built, several of them by Dad, another uncle and a cousin, who came out in 1906, both of them carpenters also. Our first school, however, was held for a few months in a homesteader's home, until the Swarthmore school, the first one, was built. A school teacher had homesteaded nearby and was in charge.

It was in 1906 that the founder of the colony came to live on his homestead; and I think that to him goes the credit of cementing that district and uniting it in every sense. There were actually very few Quakers or Friends in the district, but everybody attended the service and supported it to the best of their ability. After several years, when the United Church was formed, the old Friends church was still used for their services, and on the role were Methodists, Presbyterians, Baptists, Catholics, and others.

The first year mother worried about the lack of a doctor, in case anyone got sick. The answer was, "You would just have to die a natural death." The next year, however, there were two doctors, a dentist, and a veterinarian, within a few miles of home. One of the doctors and the dentist stayed only long enough to prove up on their homesteads. The other doctor stayed throughout, however, and was there during the 1918 'flu' epidemic, during which more than one settler had him to thank for his life. He worked night and day under great difficulties.

There were also Indians along the trails, sometimes great bands of them in the summer, going from one reserve to another for one of their get-togethers. There would be both covered and open wagons, men and kids on horseback, colts of all sizes and colors, and an equal number of dogs. They often camped at our slough, where, as soon as they had stopped, squaws and children would head for the badger knolls to catch their dinner meat of gophers.

The first roads were made by breaking a strip in the center of the road allowance, just wide enough for a wagon track, and disking it smooth.

As times changed we got a regular Post Office located in the home of one of the homesteaders, and a regular mail carrier brought the mail twice each week from Battleford to Ovens-town, Swarthmore and Kingsview.

The early homesteaders came from many different walks in life. Many of them were really green, and their mistakes and misadventures were the occasion for many a laugh. The Mounted Police were real guardians to some of these. They often stopped at our place for meals, or overnight, when out on patrol, though we did not make a practice of keeping "stoppers," which meant that a traveller was charged for room and board for man and beast. The Mounted Police might go to a homestead and find both humans and livestock under one roof, with not much to eat on the place; or they might find that someone was sick, or badly frozen. If so, they would

send out food, or take the sick or frozen into Battleford for treatment.

AFTER a time the railway came in south of us. All supplies for the construction gangs were freighted in from Battleford, over the Sounding Lake Trail. We liked to see the string of freight teams going by, or watch them make camp and turn their mules loose for a roll. To see the mules kick was something to behold: I have heard drivers say that one could stand right in front of a mule, and he could still put his hind foot in your pocket.

By 1910 the district was pretty well settled up, and new homesteads were more or less a thing of the past. People were buying up C.P.R. land, not for speculation, but to make homes. Much of the breaking was done with big steam engines pulling nine- or ten-bottom plows. Homesteaders who had proved up (lived on the land for three years and plowed at least ten acres) were buying more land, putting up better homes and buildings. Municipalities were being formed, roads improved, telephone companies organized, and the old prairie trails nearly a thing of the past.

Time brought the first world war, and with it a period of good crops with good prices. This meant cars, tractors and later on combines. The old romantic days of the oxen and the horse and buggy, as well as the big threshing outfits—all were forced to yield, like the buffalo and wild pigeon, to change.

Then came the depression, when nothing was worth anything; and between the dry years and the grasshoppers, the hungry thirties were pretty rugged. The old homesteading days were the good old days. Most farmers were now in debt. The majority had to accept relief, and matters appeared to go from bad to worse. All of this went very much against the grain of those who had faced the hardships and the privations of the homesteading period, and had come through without help or favor from anyone.

Nevertheless, the farmer is always a pessimist when things are good, and an optimist when things are bad. He could find something to joke about during the bad years. One perhaps had seen three grasshoppers sitting on the fence, drawing straws to see which

would have the next blade of grain to come up; or he had put the old sow in the slough to soak up, because she was too dried out to hold swill. Perhaps one farmer would ask another how his old binder was holding out during the harvest, and would be told, "Oh, pretty well: Of course it kicked out a sheaf only on Thursday, and I don't expect another one till Tuesday." Or a man might ask his neighbor to lend him some horse blankets to tie around his horses, so the straw wouldn't come out between their ribs.

However, "even this shall pass away." Despite its innumerable tragedies and its irreparable losses, World War II brought good crops and good prices. With these came new cars, trucks, combines, houses, holiday trips and electricity. Now, with a flick of a switch, houses, barns, outbuildings and farm yard are brightly lighted. The pumping, washing and ironing are done by electricity, and the Sunday dinner cooked in the oven of an electric stove while the family is at church.

Gone is the barrenness of the countryside, which, for the homesteader of 1905, revealed no trees bigger than a small willow, or hill much bigger than a badger knoll, for 25 miles. In

the old days, when someone complained that his eyes bothered him, he was told that the trouble came from looking so far and seeing nothing. In 1955, as one drives along the well-graded municipal roads, there are lovely farmsteads with houses, barns and outbuildings painted, and surrounded by windbreaks of beautiful spruce. Inside are flowers and vegetable gardens, as well as modern farm machinery. Many of the houses, with hot and cold running water and electricity, surpass many city homes.

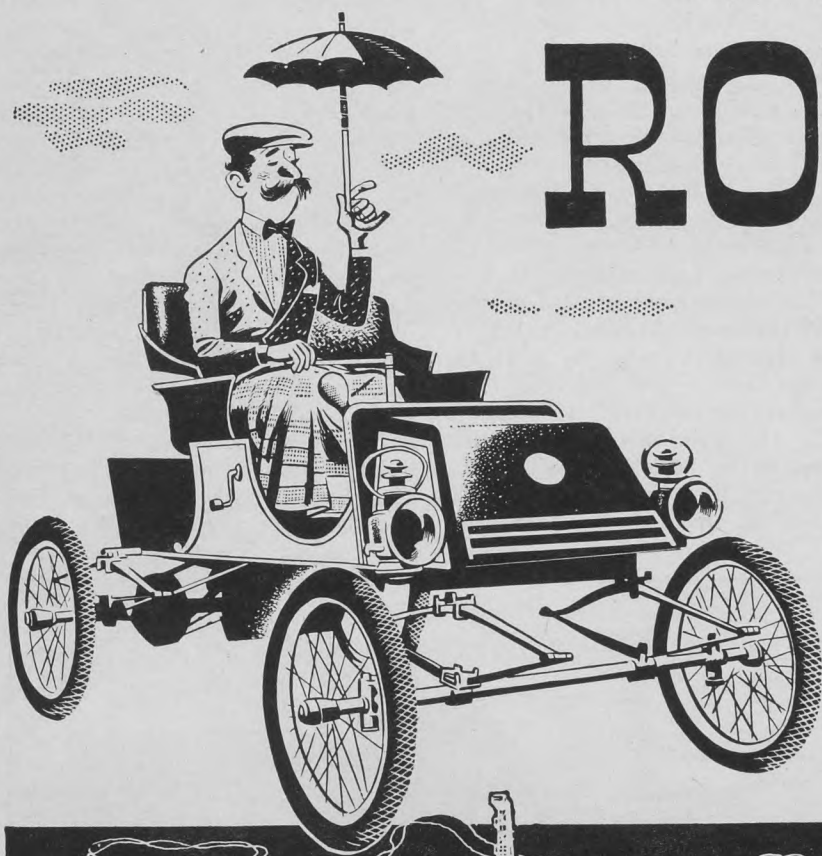
At Swarthmore today, there is a monument to those hardy and hopeful pioneers, who looked not backward but ahead. It is the Swarthmore United Church, a beautiful, nicely kept stucco building, with steeple and basement (the pulpit made by a pioneer), that would be creditable in any district, rural or urban. Built and finished by the pioneers, whose families at one time may have been of almost any denomination, it represents not only people who came mostly from Ontario, but others who came from the British Isles or Continental Europe. They have left a heritage of which succeeding generations may forever be proud.



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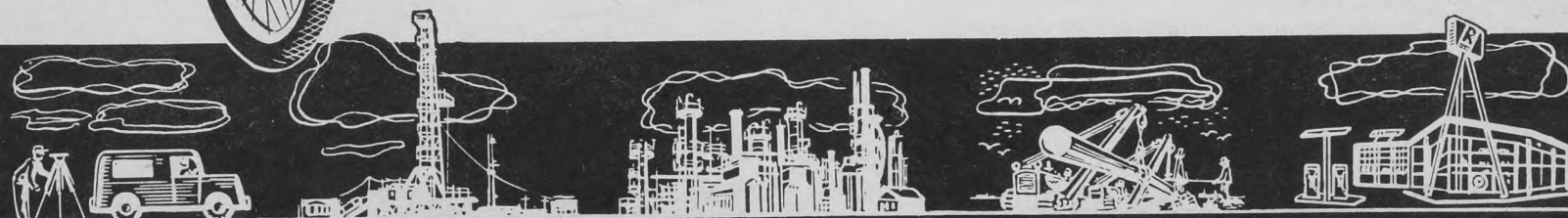
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The year 1955 marks the 50th Anniversary of Saskatchewan and Alberta. It is also the year in which a new trademark (above) is being introduced at all former Hi-Way service stations in Saskatchewan and Alberta, and at all Royalite stations in British Columbia. Since 1949 an independent organization, Royalite is truly "the 100% Canadian oil company" with a major investment in Western Canada.

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Usually not very much, but on September 9, 1954, chalk took on a new value. Canada awoke that morning with a question on its lips . . . "How is she doing?" And out in Lake Ontario a little school-girl gave the country its answer. Stroke by stroke she was nearing Toronto, encouraged by the messages Gus Ryder scribbled on his blackboard. Yes, a few pieces of chalk became priceless that morning as Gus Ryder "talked" Marilyn Bell across those agonizing miles of water. And, behind the little Toronto girl there was a team that trained, inspired and encouraged her to victory . . . a team led by a man who dedicated his life to swimming and life-saving because, on two occasions, he himself nearly drowned! Teamwork is vital for success in business too, and we at Imperial Bank work as a team to give you banking service of the highest order. If you are not already a customer, call in at any branch and enquire about the many services we can offer you. Imperial Bank has branches coast to coast, serving business, industry, and the people of Canada.

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Saskatchewan's First Fifty Years

Continued from page 11

was the evolution of farm machinery. The expansion of crop acreage was slow as long as oxen and horses were the chief sources of farm power, but with the coming of the early tractors, cumbersome and inefficient though they were, the acreage of cropped land grew yearly by leaps and bounds. In 1921 it totalled some 22 million acres, as compared with less than half a million acres in 1901. The increasing efficiency of gas and diesel machines, and the advent of heavy, self-propelled units accelerated this trend, until today, the horse has been reduced to odd farm chores, or dispensed with altogether.

The prairie region is Canada's greatest market for tractors and combines, and has become a huge laboratory for testing new types of equipment. Between 1931 and 1951, the number of farm tractors increased from less than 40,000 to over 90,000, and the number of farm trucks from 10,000 to 50,000. Another big factor in the farm power revolution has been the rapid increase in farm electrification, affecting both the type and volume of equipment bought, and the living habits of the people. The greatest strides in the modernization of Saskatchewan's farm equipment have taken place since the latter years of World War II. Today, from 25 to 30 per cent of all Canadian farm machinery purchases are made by farmers of "the Wheat Province." The wholesale value of Canadian farm machinery sales in 1952 was \$250 million. Little wonder that a bad crop year in Saskatchewan is felt through the whole Canadian economy!

With the coming of larger and better machinery, it was inevitable that the average farm size would grow from the original quarter-section to 320 acres, to 554 acres in 1951. As early as 1920 it was recommended that farmers on the brown soils of the southwest, in particular, should have at least two sections of land so they could raise some livestock to supplement their grain sales. By 1951 the average farm in that area was 1,181 acres, as compared with 438 acres in 1921. The trend toward fewer, but larger farms, which began on the prairies in the early thirties, soon extended to the newer settlements

farther north, and eventually became general all over the province.

STEP by step with improved farm machinery and cropping practices came new and better grain varieties, chemical fertilizers to build up the reserves of plant foods in the wheatlands, and new sprays and dusts to combat pests and disease. Hard-working plant scientists came up with early maturing grains to combat frost hazards, and strong-stemmed varieties to resist hail damage. New wheats appeared with high bread baking qualities, and special rust-resistant qualities. At the pioneer experimental farm established at Indian Head in 1888, over 50 imported varieties of wheat were tested, among them Ladoga and Hard Red Calcutta, which, later, when crossed with Red Fife and White Fife, gave a number of early maturing varieties, such as Huron, Preston, Stanley, and Marquis.

The story of Saskatchewan's grain production is one of surplus and shortage. As there is today, so also there were serious grain "blockades" in 1901, 1915, 1916, 1942, and 1943. The reason for these varied with the times: rail lines under construction which failed to be ready at harvest time was an early cause, but mostly it was a case of unexpectedly large crops, here and elsewhere, or because war conditions restricted grain exports. There were also periods of scarcity, such as in 1938, when reserves of wheat on the farms and in country elevators dwindled to less than five million bushels,—a staggering drop in the terms of last year's carryover of 587,500,000 bushels.

It was the pioneer farmers who shaped the Canada Grain Act, and the Canadian Wheat Board who assumed the task of marketing the later surpluses. Evidence of the determination of producers to shoulder the responsibility of selling their own product was the establishment of the Board of Grain Commissioners, and the organization of the Territorial Grain Growers' Association, the Grain Growers' Grain Company (now the United Grain Growers Ltd.), and the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, and the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool. The Federal Government aided by establishing inland grain storage terminals at Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, and Port Churchill.

Along with marketing facilities, grain handling methods improved year by year. The loading platform and the "armstrong" method of hand-



A prairie threshing scene in 1898, showing early model steam thresher.

ling grain has given way to the producer-owned elevator, mechanically operated at a great saving of labor and time. These early country elevators were first operated by horsepower, then later by steam or gas engines, but today electricity is gradually taking over the job. With improved handling methods came a wheat-grading system, which boosted the Canadian product to the enviable position of being the only wheat in the world which buyers will purchase sight unseen (on the strength of the "certificate final").

WHEAT and Saskatchewan have become inseparable terms, yet no one can deny the part played by the livestock industry—that "other half" of the farm picture. Most early homesteaders shied away from the idea of being wholly dependent on grain crops, and pioneer cattle

ranchers played a leading role in developing districts which were far from rail service. As Saskatchewan's population increased, most of the big cattlemen suffered from the age-old invasion of the homesteader. Today, there is a division of territory which gives a reasonable stability to both.

Like farmers, ranchers, too, had their periods of trial and difficulty. They learned by bitter experience the value of feed reserves during a hard winter, of dependable water supplies in droughty years, and the security of land tenure at all times. But the rancher of today doesn't represent all of the Saskatchewan livestock industry, for the number of farm-raised animals far exceeds those of the short-grass range country of the southwest.

The growth of Saskatchewan agriculture was not accomplished without the aid of progressive farm legislation. The earliest ordinances concerning

livestock had to do with the registration of brands, livestock running at large, formation of pound and bull districts, and the disposal of stray animals. These early regulations fathered The Brand Act, The Livestock Inspection Act, and The Stray Animals Act of today. Marketing troubles brought The Livestock and Livestock Products Act in 1919, to be administered by officers of the Federal Livestock Branch.

In 1920, the Better Farming Commission was appointed to study farming problems in southwestern Saskatchewan, after three successive years of serious crop failure. One development was the establishment of community pastures on abandoned ranch land, where farmers could send their surplus stock for summer grazing. From earliest times, livestock improvement became an objective of local and Federal authorities, and

since 1915, rural municipalities have co-operated with farmers to share hail losses through a hail insurance scheme. A further measure of crop insurance was later provided by the Federal Prairie Farm Assistance Act.

Over the past 50 years Saskatchewan farmers have learned well the value of co-operation in a wide range of activities. First applied to marketing, this principle has been followed successfully in most phases of farm production, as well as in processing, purchasing, savings, and various forms of insurance. There were co-operative creameries, so called, even in the old Territorial days, and co-operation has been a growing force ever since. Neither the land, the people, transportation, technology, nor even stubborn determination, could have written the Saskatchewan story without the power and purpose of a united effort.

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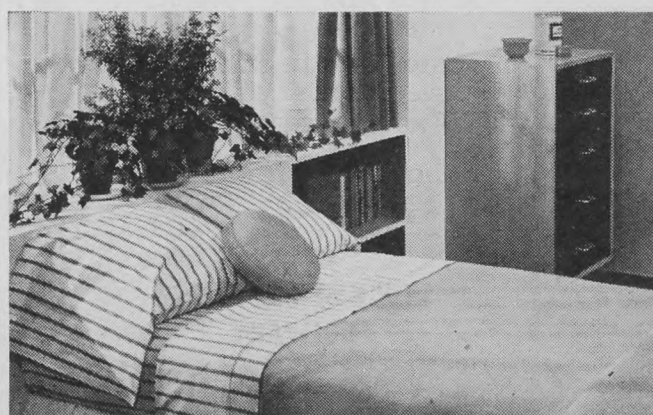
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The Hargraves Of Walsh

Continued from page 10

jected to children's hands too often, somewhat mean. Once mounted, Oliver was afraid to get off. On the first day of the newly accelerated mission, Oliver stopped to minister to a lonely shepherd. All went well until benediction time. As the minister and congregation bowed their heads, they were not alone. The pony's head lowered, too—too quickly for reverence—and the young preacher was quickly unseated.

Another young man, who later became known to almost every stockman in southern Alberta, arrived at the Hargrave ranch in 1903. Barney Crockett—no known relative of Davy—who later became a rancher, stock detective and brand inspector, stayed there for many years. His life story is intimately connected with the fortunes of the ranch. Barney tells, and none can tell a story better, how the Hargrave family used to go to church. James Hargrave was very strict about church-going and also about refraining from labor on the seventh day. However, he didn't consider the breaking of broncos as necessarily unsuitable for a Sunday morning. When it came church time, Mrs. Hargrave and the children would clamber into the democrat, to which were hitched, perhaps for the second or third time, a team of spirited colts. Meanwhile, the hands would mount anything that appeared to need riding down a bit. Mr. Hargrave would take the reins, pull his hat a little lower over his eyes, and all would head for the church at full gallop across the open range.

TOM HARGRAVE, who, as a boy, had driven the first cattle to the ranch, took over as manager in 1901, when he was 24 years old. For several years he had been attending college in Toronto, while Jack MacDonald had continued as winter manager. As ranch manager, Tom proved extremely capable. He was one of the finest horsemen in the country, and an unsurpassed stockman. During his honeymoon, after his marriage to Mary Whimster in the winter of 1906, he received a wire from his father . . . "Come home. The cows are all dying." . . . And he did come home. He left his bride at the ranch, and spent three weeks rounding up the wandering cattle, some of which had drifted through the Cypress Hills, almost to the Montana border.

He was extremely strong and active all his life. When electricity came to the Hargrave ranch in 1942 in the form of a windcharger on top of a high steel tower, Tom was one of the first to climb the tower; and he continued to climb it when the mechanism needed oiling, until he was 71. At the age of 67 he spent day after day in the saddle, and ran the entire ranch with the help of only one full-time man, a small tractor and part-time aid from neighbor boys.

In 1948 he moved to Medicine Hat, where he lived in active retirement, until he became ill two years ago. He died in 1954, and will long be remembered by many, not only as a stockman and rancher, but as a gentleman, a friend and a neighbor.

TWO women have played important roles in the Hargrave ranch, and a third is doing her share right now. Mrs. James Hargrave (Alexandra Helen Sissons) came to nurse James as (it was thought) he lay dying of pneumonia. Instead of making a dying man's last moments easier to bear, however, the young lady revived him, and they lived a long and happy life together. When James was taking his young family west in 1877, by the route of the voyageurs, the canoe carrying Mrs. Hargrave and her young baby, Tom, upset near Lake of the Woods. The young mother struggled to shore with her child, refusing the help of the Indian boatmen. Later she



Barney Crockett, who has been both cowhand and brand inspector, has been a family intimate for years.

was to act as chatelaine at the ranch. All who knew her there remembered her help and encouragement and the home-like atmosphere of the Hargrave ranch. Barney Crockett says: "She was a mother to us. She washed our clothes and mended our socks, and treated us as her sons."

Mrs. Tom Hargrave, whose wedding trip ended so inauspiciously, seems to be a woman of illimitable energy. While on the ranch, she made horsehair mattresses, mended binder canvases and tents, made rugs and quilts, as well as performing the regular chores of a woman with a large family, who was also mistress of a frequently visited home. Moreover, she is a woman who believes that a good life is a full one. She is the oldest member of the Medicine Hat Literary Club, and when she was at the ranch she often made the long trip to "The Hat" just for meetings. She is also an artist of considerable talent.

When Amy Reinhardt of Walsh married Bert Hargrave, Tom's son, she inherited traditions of hospitality and hard work, graciousness and good sense. The new chatelaine of the ranch has accepted the challenge with enthusiasm and ability. Moreover, she's raising two husky Hargraves, so a fourth generation on the family ranch seems inevitable.

AND now to turn from history and anecdote, to ranch management under the present owner and manager, Bert Hargrave.

There have been some changes made since the days when the cattle were left till snowfall at the Bull Springs, a summer pasture north of Medicine Hat, and 35 miles west of the home ranch. In the years when

the ranch was hard-pressed to feed all the stock, Tom annually took a calculated risk. He knew that he could easily bring the cattle home from their summer pasture at the Bull Springs in the early fall. But he also knew that if they came home too early they would have the winter fields grazed off before snow time, and, if the winter were severe, be short of feed. On the other hand, if the drive home were too long delayed, a bad storm might make it impossible to bring them home at all. Several times the long trail to Many Island Lake was made in bad weather. One winter the weather was 45 below, the snow deep, and feed all gone at the Bull Springs; the cattle had to be moved to Many Island Lake. Breaking trail with a team and sleigh, young Harry Hargrave (now in charge of animal husbandry research at the Lethbridge Experimental Station), led the herd the 35 miles across the bleak and drifted range. Now the ranch has developed adequate winter fields at the Bull Springs, the home ranch and the place on Box Elder Creek, 15 miles east of the ranch headquarters.

Bert says that winter grazing is the critical factor in ranching, and he maintains that there are two considerations which determine successful wintering. First, the stock must have rustling ability; and then, he adds, "short grass is good, if the stock can get it. Every ranch should have a good winter field, one with natural shelter of coulees and brush, so that the stock are protected from storms, no matter from what direction they come."

Bert points out that a rancher with cows that rustle through the winter is away ahead of the man who has to haul feed all through the cold weather. Hargrave cattle are taught to rustle. Yearling heifers that will later go into the breeding herd, are wintered at the Bull Springs *without supplementary feed*. A rider is on hand to keep the herd moving to where there is grazing, but there are no hand-outs. Once these heifers have learned to rustle, they never forget. "Most of my range cows haven't been fed in ten years," says Bert. Out of 400 breeding cows, 350 will winter without feeding, while about 50 head will take some feed. Those that have to be fed don't stay in the herd very long.

Of course, rustling ability isn't too useful unless there is something to rustle for; and that's where good winter fields are important. Both Little Corn and James Hargrave understood the need for protection from storms, and they found what was needed near Many Island Lake. Coulees twist and turn in all directions so that there's a lee side for every wind, and brush there, too, and water.

OLD-TIMERS say that there is more water around southeastern Alberta this year than ever before. Old records state that the village site of Walsh was once just a large lake; and this year it was very close to being submerged again. Before the current series of rainy years there were three other wet periods: in 1903-04-05, 1916-17, and 1927-28. The longest of these lasted three years, but this time there have been five wet years in a row. Sloughs, lakes and creeks are carrying water for the first time in living memory. Near the Hargrave home, a row of trees runs down the

side of a hill and across a lake. Those in the lake have died; and a stranger to the country would wonder how they ever came to grow there in the first place.

Carrying capacities for lease lands were determined in the dry '30's, and were designed to leave a carryover of 45 per cent, under the conditions of limited growth that accompanied the drought years. Now, with season after season of abundant rainfall, the carryover is over 90 per cent in some places.

Bert says that the high carryover may look like a waste, but he doesn't

think there will be much pressure to have carrying capacities increased. "It's a wonderful insurance," he says. "especially if there is a late spring storm. And of course we're expecting some dry years, any time now." In the meantime, ranchers are increasing their beef production from the same number of breeding stock, by selling heavier cattle. This year, four inches of rain fell within six days in mid-July—a time when, normally, the hills would be completely brown and the season's growth over.

P.F.R.A. engineers have put in some dams on the ranch to catch run-off,

which may be used later to irrigate hay land for Bert and a number of his neighbors. At the present time no one is worrying about getting water on hay land; the big problem is to get it off. Many Island Lake is probably ten times bigger now than it was 20 years ago, and its increased size means that thousands of acres of ranch hay land lies under water. The cattlemen of the area, as they look at the unprecedented accumulation of water, adopt the viewpoint of the Chinese philosopher, "This is only temporary." Before long they expect the lakes to shrink, and they may be very happy

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Patient	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5
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Date of Last Movement	May 4	May 3	May 11	May 10	May 10
Date of Test	May 6	May 6	May 14	May 11	May 13
Dose of Castoria	3 tsps	5 tsps	2 tsps	2 tsps	3 tsps
Time of Administration	2 p.m.	2 p.m.	2 p.m.	3:30 p.m.	2 p.m.
EFFECT					
Time onset of Catharsis	8 p.m.	10 p.m.	6 p.m.	8 a.m.	8 a.m.
Abdominal Cramps	no	no	no	no	no
Nausea	no	no	no	no	no
Vomiting	no	no	no	no	no

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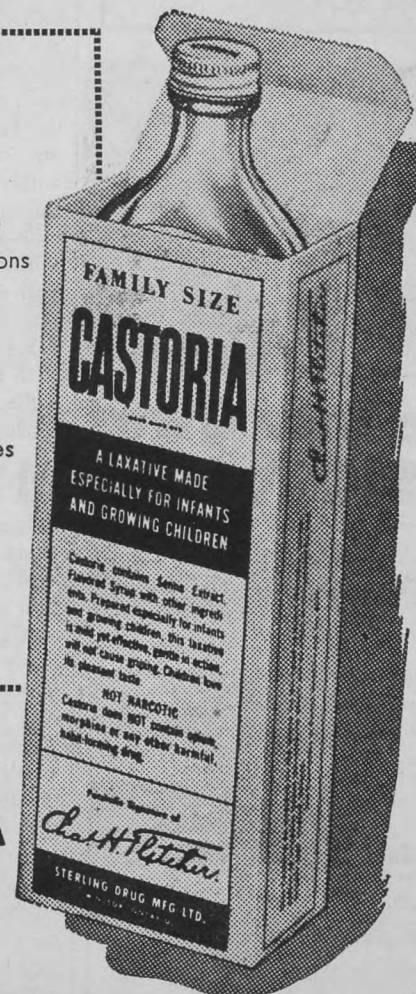
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then to have irrigation water on hand.

THAT Bert is a natural leader is revealed in his cattle breeding program. The ranch has been stocked by various breeds of cattle at different times. Away back in 1898, a very young fellow from Scotland, named Alex Mitchell, brought out a load of Highland cattle for James Hargrave. Mr. Mitchell has since become well-known as the owner of the Battle River Hereford Ranch; the Hargraves didn't stay with the Highlands either. During the '20's, Aberdeen-Angus bulls were used, along with some Herefords. Bert remembers a Hereford bull tossing a black bull over a fence—he had to bury the dead bull—; and from then on, the Blacks were in the descendency. The last black cow was sold in 1954, just 25 years after the last black bull had passed from the scene.

As the ranch became stocked with Herefords, bulls were obtained from Frank Collicutt and Alex Mitchell, and were raised at home. The Hargraves always looked for great size in their bulls, and also for rustling ability and hardiness, just as in their cows. Bert has not bought a bull from a major bull sale since 1948. He buys calves and yearlings and grows them out himself under rugged conditions. Some of his bulls have come from the A7 Cross ranch, and lately he has been buying from Curtis Hughes of Stanford, Montana. The Hughes cattle are bred from the performance-tested Line 1 cattle developed by research workers at the USDA Range Experiment Station, Miles City, Montana. Hughes is continuing a type of performance testing which measures the milking ability of the dam and three traits in the young bull; his ability to rustle, to put on gain while grain-fed, and then to gain on grass. Bert now has seven Line 1 bulls. Like most ranchers, he thinks it is futile to turn a fat bull out on the range: "All our bulls have to walk 35 miles to the Bull Springs, before they go to work."

Culling of females is done at both ends of the herd. The bottom third of the heifers are spayed, and every year one or two carloads of older cows—with poor udders, or bad eyes, or those who can't rustle through the winter—leave the ranch.

Bert is a rancher, and has no ambition either to raise purebreds, or to start a feedlot. Cattle breeding fascinates him, though, and he has, along with his Line 1 bulls, a Charbray (five-eighths Charolaise and three-eighths Brahman).

MARKETING of cattle always has been a task requiring skill and judgment. For the past half-dozen years in Walsh, a cattle marketing association has operated its own auction sales and disposed of most of the cattle produced in the area. That this co-operative venture became established at Walsh would surprise someone unfamiliar with the country and its people. The majority are relatively small farmers and ranchers, and most of them are either European-born, or just one generation removed from Europe. It would seem an almost impossible task to unite people of such diverse ancestry and tradition as the recent immigrant, the old-time rancher, and the small farmer from homestead days. But they are united and the Walsh sales are highly suc-

cessful. Bert was the prime mover in starting the organization, and is now its president.

He is best known, however, as president of the Western Stock Growers' Association. The membership of this organization has been described as free-wheeling and as independent as they come. That Hargrave should be president of a co-op on one hand, and also of the most individualistic agricultural organization in Canada, seems, at first glance, to be an anomaly—but it isn't. Bert believes in the rights and dignity of the individual, but he also believes that men can join together to solve common problems. There's nothing contradictory in that. In fact, agricultural leaders of today might well benefit by studying the leadership of both the Walsh Cattle Marketing Association and the Western Stock Growers' Association.

And so the Hargrave story is brought up to date—but not ended. As was mentioned before, Amy Hargrave is ridin' herd on two sturdy young fellows, so there are bound to be many more chapters to follow. V

1910 Victory In Manitoba

ELEVATOR facilities, particularly as a check on privately owned systems, were a matter of great concern to farmers in the early days. Consequently the extract from the convention proceedings of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association in December, 1909, given by Hon. G. R. Coldwell, Minister of Education, is worth recalling:

"I came here this morning at the request of the government to make an important announcement to the farmers of this convention, and to the farmers throughout the province. Tomorrow you are taking up the question which is probably one of greatest interest to you in connection with your operations. I refer particularly to what is called the elevator question (Cheers) . . . Things have changed somewhat since the meetings of the premiers and the discussion your joint associations had with the premiers. Mr. Scott, premier of Saskatchewan has notified Mr. Roblin, premier of Manitoba, that the arrangements with the three premiers has fallen to the ground and is at an end, and that the provinces in the future in dealing with this matter must act independently.

"Now that puts somewhat of a different phase upon the question, and I want to say to you here that . . . the government of your province has come to the conclusion that the province should take this matter up on its own footing. . . . The government of Manitoba has adopted the policy and has accepted the principle laid down by the Grain Growers' Association establishing a line (Cheers) of internal grain elevators as a public utility, owned by the public and operated by the public. (Long and loud cheers.) And the government is prepared to co-operate with your Association in carrying out that policy and working out a plan to that end. (Renewed cheers.) You have no doubt some well defined plan for that purpose, and I am here to ask you on behalf of the government of which I am a member to send a representative committee to meet the members of the government." V

HAY AHOY!



Some farmers in the picturesque, low-lying Suffolk Broads district of England bring in the hay by water. So it was logical for a British boat builder to use lightweight aluminum to produce a 650-pound punt capable of carrying a load of hay more than six times its own weight.

In Canada aluminum is better known among farmers as a non-rusting, heat-reflecting, easily handled material for barns and roofs and silos . . . though of course it has many other farm uses, from milk cans to windmill blades. No hay-boats, though.

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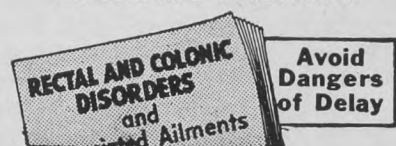
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The Siege Of Ottawa

EIGHT hundred Canadian farmers, the largest delegation of farmers ever to appear at Ottawa, assembled there on December 15, 1910, and met the Government in the House of Commons chamber on the following day, to demand more equitable legislation. The huge delegation gathered under the auspices of the very recently formed Canadian Council of Agriculture.

Eastern Canada was represented by a large number of members of the Dominion Grange, and other farmers from various associations among fruit growers, dairymen, and livestock breeders and producers. There were two delegates each from the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Association, and the New Brunswick Farmers' Association, and seven individual farmers from the province of Quebec.

Western Canada was represented by 500 delegates from the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, and the United Farmers of Alberta. The idea of sending the delegation originated in Ontario, which provided the largest provincial group of delegates, and was enthusiastically supported by the western provinces.

Over 300 Western Canada delegates travelled east on a special train provided by the Canadian Pacific Railway, marking the first time in Canada a special farmers train travelled such a distance. During the journey, meetings were held continuously throughout the length of the 13-car train. There were newspapermen aboard from the time the delegates left Winnipeg; and special correspondents from Ottawa, New York, and Montreal papers joined the caravan east of North Bay, Ontario, at various points. For the first time in history, Canadian farmers were in the world news limelight, and the subject of discussion throughout the whole of Canada. Canadians at last awoke to the fact that farmers were as capable as manufacturers and other interests, when it came to doing business in Ottawa.

From the time the delegates first set foot in the Capital, December 15, the city belonged to them. Easterners were surprised to find that the western "sod-busters" looked, talked, acted, and ate much as they themselves did, whereas they had expected a wild and woolly bunch, armed to the teeth, and ready to fight at a moment's notice.

But the westerners were there on business, and lost no time in getting at it. An hour's meeting sufficed to prepare a joint tariff resolution for Canada; then, at 10 o'clock, delegates moved to the Grand Opera House for a convention, where the resolution was passed without a dissenting vote. By six o'clock that evening the entire platform had been prepared and unanimously endorsed, for presentation to the Government the next day.

Next morning, all the delegates met again at the Opera House and marched four abreast up Parliament Hill to the Parliament Buildings. In the House of Commons chamber,

members had given up their seats to the visitors, but the delegation was so big it overflowed into the galleries. Promptly at 10 o'clock the Prime Minister, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, entered the chamber, accompanied by D. W. McCuaig of Winnipeg, president of the Canadian Council of Agriculture. About 200 members of the House of Commons were also present in other parts of the chamber and galleries. The meeting was conducted in a quiet, business-like manner, but it was a meeting of protest, and, in the words of one government member, "no parliament can afford to disregard such a protest."

The most important resolution of the day concerned the customs tariff. Reciprocal free trade between Canada and the United States was strongly urged in all horticultural, agricultural and animal products, spraying material, and fertilizers, agricultural implements and machinery, vehicles, illuminating and fuel oils, cement, fish, and lumber. Also favored was the principle of the British preferential tariff, and an immediate cut of 50 per cent of the duties on all British goods. Next in importance, was a resolution on terminal elevators, requesting that "the Dominion Government acquire and operate as a public

utility, under an independent commission, the terminal elevators of Fort William and Port Arthur, and immediately establish similar terminal facilities and conditions at the Pacific Coast, and provide the same at Hudson Bay when necessary." Other resolutions dealt with the inflexibility of the Bank Act, co-operative legislation, government operation of a chilled meat export industry, and amendments to the Railway Act.

Before leaving the Capital, delegates were entertained at Rideau Hall by Governor-General Earl Grey and Lady Grey.

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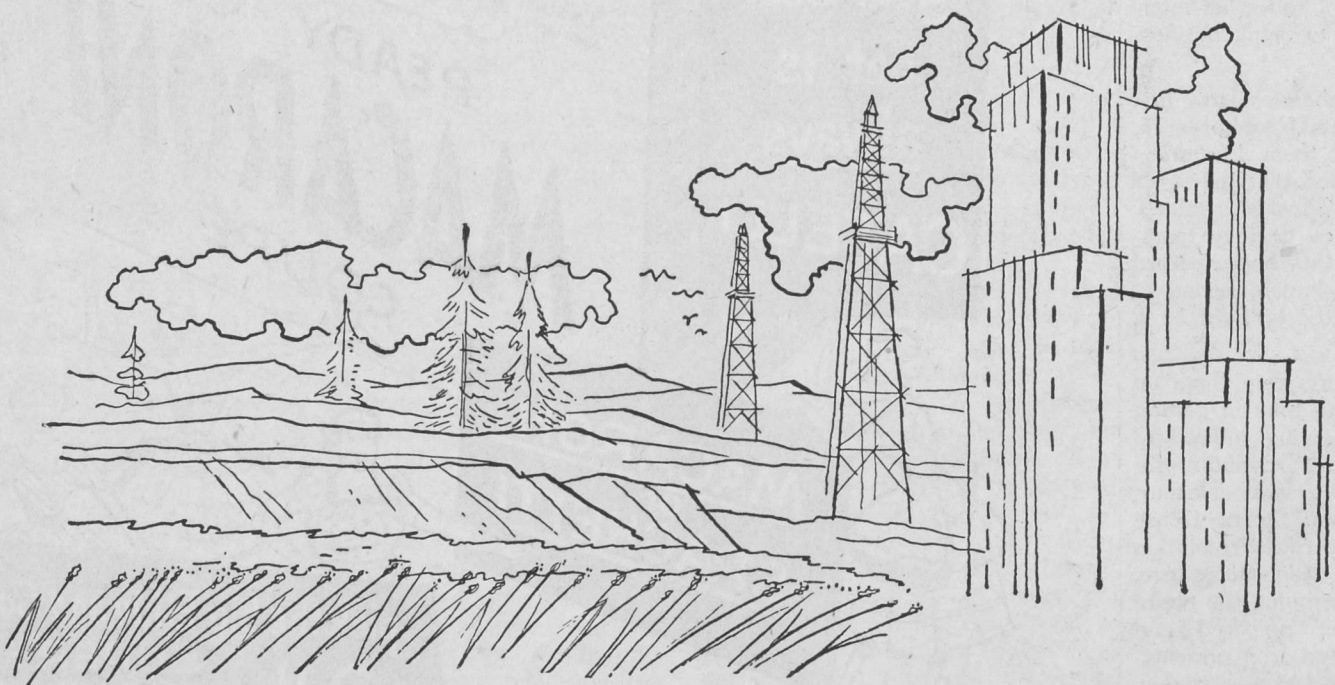
ties where people of vision were working for the future.

As the Bank was the pioneer's partner in helping development in the early days, so it is still working hand in hand with the pioneers of today.

Congratulations to you — Alberta and Saskatchewan. May the next half century more than fulfil the great promise of the past 50 golden years. We shall continue to serve you . . . and at this proud Jubilee time, our most heart-felt good wishes are yours.

The BANK of NOVA SCOTIA

• *Your Partner in Helping Canada Grow*



The Countrywoman

New-Fangled Ways

by THOMAS SAUNDERS

"New-fangled ways!" Old Bill spat out the words.
 "There's more new-fangled ways today to make
 Life easy on the farm than there are lice
 On Thatcher's hens or gopher-holes in Smith's
 Back pasture. I can mind the time farming
 Was work, clearing the scrub and such; and when
 The crop came off, and we had sweat our fill
 To harvest it, we had to haul it all
 Of sixty miles to Portage, 'cross the ice
 Of the Assiniboine in winter, or
 By ferry in the fall. Wagon and sleigh,
 We hauled for half the winter that long haul,
 Over a week each trip.

"The wheat we sowed
 Was all Red Fife, faster to grow than most
 Varieties, but slow compared to what's
 Used nowadays. It ripened late, and frost
 Got in its lick most years to knock it down
 A grade. But now quick-growing wheats are ripe
 And harvested before July is out,
 Some places, or by middle-August at
 The most—with no big threshing gangs, like in
 The steamer days, touring the country like
 A circus until after snow. Three men,
 A combine and two trucks take all the work
 From threshing and save time, lifting the crop
 Without a sheaf in stook.

"Everything's easier on
 The farm now. The women cook for three
 Instead of twenty men, come threshing time;
 And in the fields the men-folk take their ease.
 The old single- or double-coulter plow
 Ain't fast enough: they use the one-way disk,
 Hauled by a tractor so they'll have no horse
 To bed and feed, water and curry and
 Put harness on. At haying time they load
 The hay on loaders (keeping horse for that),
 And only one man has a fork in hand
 To build the stack.

"Some folk have got it worked
 They don't need hay: they tractor wheat and let
 The livestock go. The art o' farming, like
 It used to be, is gone. No cows to milk,
 No butter-churning, poultry, nor a horse
 In stall—they live in town and mine the land.
 But farming—no! Somehow, it don't seem right.
 And it ain't right. The way I figure it,
 A man ought to be on the land if he's
 To treat it right. But them new-fangled ways
 Don't work like that.

"They make life easy, but
 I like the old ways best. A man felt he
 Had earned his salt when he'd to work for it.
 But it ain't that exactly. What I mean,
 We loved the land. And, then, we had events.
 Haying and threshing were events to us,
 And that long Portage trek was an event.
 Somehow, life hasn't got events like that
 For farm-folk any more. One season is
 The same's the next, except you sow in spring
 And reap in fall, and watch the weather change."

THE above poem appeared in *Horizontal World*, published 1951, by The Ryerson Press, Toronto. The author, Thomas Saunders, was born in Scotland and came to Canada at the age of 11. A graduate in Arts and Theology, he has spent most of his life in Manitoba and is now minister of Chalmers United Church, Winnipeg. He served as chaplain in the Canadian army during World War II. His first volume of poetry, *Scrub Oak*, appeared in The Ryerson poetry chapbook series, 1949, and was enthusiastically reviewed in Canada and Great Britain.

TIME is relative. Fifty years seems a short period to men and women, whose own birthdays exceed that figure by a few years or more. Events of the past half-century are clearly and easily recalled, names and personalities of its leading figures still influence their thinking. Memory makes its own selection, the bitter as well as the sweet, and colors it with a misty glow.

To the young, especially to those whose parents haven't yet reached that age, it is "long, long ago," its people quaint, amusing or horrific; their ways and ideas, definitely old-fashioned. Whatever did people do, they ask, in the days when there were few telephones, little electricity, no autos, radio nor television?

The story, as it unfolds, in this two-provinces' Jubilee year, may seem fascinating or unbelievable to the young. The middle-aged thinking person still marvels at the changes, which have come within his own lifetime: motors and machines, power lines and highways, airplanes, radio, radar and television—the list might continue.

Life for the average family, on farm or in the city, goes on at a fairly simple level, no matter how great the outward changes. With that thought in mind, let us leaf over the pages of a farm magazine for evidence of the ways of life, work and thinking of men and women who lived in the Canadian West, 50 years ago. The Country Guide (formerly The Grain Growers' Guide) did not come on the scene until June, 1908. In 1936 it acquired, by purchase, The Nor'-West Farmer, "established in 1882"—just about the time when the great wave of settlement began.

The term "in those days," when used here, has special reference to 1904 and 1905—the period selected as possibly best reflecting the activities and life of the people in the West, just prior to Alberta's and Saskatchewan's newly defined boundaries and status.

by AMY J. ROE

A large proportion of the reading space was devoted to livestock, grain, methods of cultivation and machinery, dairying and poultry—matters of concern to farmers, the world over. Actual news from the area covered was scarce, except for fairs and association meetings. Many columns were given over to questions and answers on legal and veterinary topics, and there were long listings of animals strayed or impounded.

A news item in April, 1904, tells that over 20,000 acres of land in western Canada were selling daily in Minneapolis and St. Paul. Settlers and their families were arriving via Atlantic steamship and train, prairie schooner or open ox-drawn wagons. The homestead rush was on!

MANY homesteaders were bachelors, and their plight caused the editor to publish some whimsical advice from Alfred Gibson of Dubuc, Assa., with the author's own stated opinion: "I think the government should encourage the emigration of the fair sex from the old land to a greater extent than they are now doing." An item quoted from the Toronto Globe reported that a certain Mr. Pike of Wapella "is on the way to England, with a strong argument to induce 50 healthy, good looking girls to accompany him back to the prairies"—the idea being that the girls would work as servants at \$15 a month—but soon marry. "Wives, not servants are what, in Mr. Pike's opinion, the West most needs, wives to make homes and bind young men to the soil."

In the meanwhile a lady lecturer, from Cornell University, addressed a meeting of Ontario farm women at Guelph, saying that—The aim of the Women's Institutes should be to make the farm home interesting, in a measure at least . . . this could be attained by teaching the farmer's wife more about it and by teaching her to introduce system into her management of the home. The successful management (Please turn to page 70)



THAT day was like Sunday. The house was shining and tidy like Sunday. But only Nellie and her father, Mr. Becker, were dressed like Sunday. Dan, Nellie's brother, also like Sunday, had spent a lot of time grooming Minnie, the grey horse, and shining up the buggy.

In a sense it was because of Minnie that I was a member of the household that summer. The Beckers were former parishioners of my father's, and when he gave up his country pastorate in this German settlement for one in the city, the Beckers bought Minnie from him. At the time I was too young to remember either the move or the transaction, but my father's collection of stories about Minnie and her moods had made her as real to me as Black Beauty. When I was half past ten a protracted case of bronchitis kept me indoors during the winter and the Beckers, having heard of it, wrote to suggest that a summer on the farm would be good for me. My first delighted reaction was, "Now I'll see Minnie."

On a morning toward the end of June my father took me to the station and put me and my valise in charge of the conductor. "She'll be met at the other end," he said. He kissed me and gave me a whole quarter for spending money. I climbed into the coach and settled myself in a faded green plush seat, but as I waved good-bye through a window a sudden frantic wish to be back home in the familiar rough and tumble with my brothers and sisters seized me. The train chuffed inexorably away and an unaccustomed feeling of importance came to sustain me.

Here was I, travelling all by myself for the first time in my life, handing my own ticket to the conductor, receiving the stub back, putting it in my purse, gloating over that quarter, and watching the countryside wheel by in a succession of pictures of fields and creek and woods and farmsteads. Before I knew it, the conductor was coming along the aisle calling my station and saying, "Here you are, little girl." He picked up my valise and I followed

him out and down to the cindery platform. There I saw a big boy with yellow hair, dressed in overalls, leaning against the side of a dull red building that looked to me more like a shed than a station. The conductor said to him, "A passenger for you, I guess."

THE next minute the train was hooting its way around a curve and I was alone, except for the big boy, curling up inside with shyness and a return of homesickness, feeling a warm breeze fluttering the ribbons of my sailor hat against my back. The big boy looked at me, then looked away, then back again. He swallowed.

"I'm Dan," he said. "I've come to get you. That your valise?"

Since I was clutching it in front of me with both hands, no answer seemed necessary.

"Let's have it," he said.

Uncertainly I gave it to him. I didn't doubt that his name was Dan, but was his other name Becker? If it weren't, what would I do? I had always been warned never to speak to strangers, especially men. I cast furtive looks around to see where I might run to if necessary. It would mean abandoning my

Nellie Went Away

It wasn't at all like I imagined it would be, that day which was so like Sunday and yet not like Sunday, when the family said good-bye to Nellie who was going to teach school in Saskatchewan

by MARGARET E. BARNARD

valise with all my clothes, especially my Sunday dress and slippers, and my best petticoat with the embroidery frill and pale blue ribbon run through beading, and my two story books. While I hesitated the boy said, "This way," and meekly I followed. The instant we rounded the rear corner of the station I knew everything was all right.

"There's Minnie!" I said.

She was exactly as I had pictured her, grey, speckled with black, no beauty, but wiry looking and with a deceptive air of being too lazy to move. But I knew that if there was one thing Minnie hated, it was a slow take-off.

"Your pa used to drive her," Dan said.

Minnie was hitched to a buggy with glittering yellow wheels and a small seat built across the dashboard. The seat and its red plush upholstery caught my fancy immediately.

"I want to sit there," I said, pointing.

"That's supposed to be for little kids," Dan said, but I didn't care.

He stowed my valise in back, helped me up to the small seat and spread a fringed linen-colored duster over my knees. Then, in one swift motion, he picked up the reins, leaped in, and Minnie plunged forward. Puffs of dust rose from her hooves and her swishing tail kept flicking the back of my neck and threatening to dislodge my hat until I took it off and held it on my lap. When we crossed a bridge her clop-clopping beat out a kind of muffled musical note from the planking. Fragrances of many kinds fanned about me, sweet waftings from the clover fields, the delicate pungencies of white daisies and yellow buttercups and purple vetch that lined the roadside as if some gardener had planted a border, and over all the pervasive odor of horse, which in its own way was not unpleasing. These new and vivid impressions were so absorbing that I wasn't conscious of any lack of conversation.

Dan startled me by saying, "Nellie's going to Saskatchewan. In August."

"Who's Nellie?"

"My sister." He seemed surprised that I shouldn't know, and I couldn't tell him that until now my interest in his family had been confined to their horse. "She's twenty," he said. "She teaches."

I LOOKED around at the countryside through which we were passing, the snake fences, the woodlots, the creeks that were all so new and fascinating to me. How much more adventurous to be going to Saskatchewan. I had only a vague idea of how far away it was, somewhere in the center of Canada, but I knew where to find it in the atlas. Lucky Nellie! Lucky family to have someone going on such a journey!

"Nearly home now," Dan said as we skirted a low-lying tract of cedars. We turned left on a side-road and up a gentle incline to a driveway. All at once shyness gripped me again. In a minute, just past the orchard and around that clipped cedar hedge, I would be in the midst of strangers. My hands, tight on the brim of my hat, were damp with perspiration.

Suddenly it was over in a babel of welcome, made vociferous by the excited barking of Bobs, the collie. In an instant the unfamiliar faces were the faces of friends whom I felt that I had known for a long time. Dan's (Please turn to page 72)

*She turned and held me close.
"Good-bye, Marychen. I'm sorry
I never got around to those organ
lessons."*



Illustrated by Clarence Tillenius

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3½ cups Robin Hood Vitamin Enriched Flour
4 teaspoons baking powder
2 eggs, separated
1 cup fine sugar
3 tablespoons butter OR shortening
½ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon nutmeg
¾ cup — plus 2 tablespoons — milk
1 teaspoon vanilla

Sift flour and baking powder together twice. No guessing, you use exact amount of Robin Hood All-Purpose Flour called for . . . It's "Bake-Tested" to give you *uniformly best* results, bag after bag.

Beat egg yolks. Add sugar gradually. Add soft butter, salt, nutmeg and 2 tablespoons milk. Fold in stiffly beaten egg whites. Blend in dry ingredients and remaining milk alternately, beginning and ending with dry ingredients. Add vanilla.

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On lightly floured surface pat dough to ½ inch thickness. Cut with doughnut cutter. Fry in deep fat at temperature of 360°F., 3 minutes on each side. (A one inch cube of bread will brown in 1 minute.) Drain on brown paper. Sprinkle with sugar.

Makes 3 dozen light, luscious doughnuts
... best you've ever made, or your money back — plus 10 percent!



Robin Hood

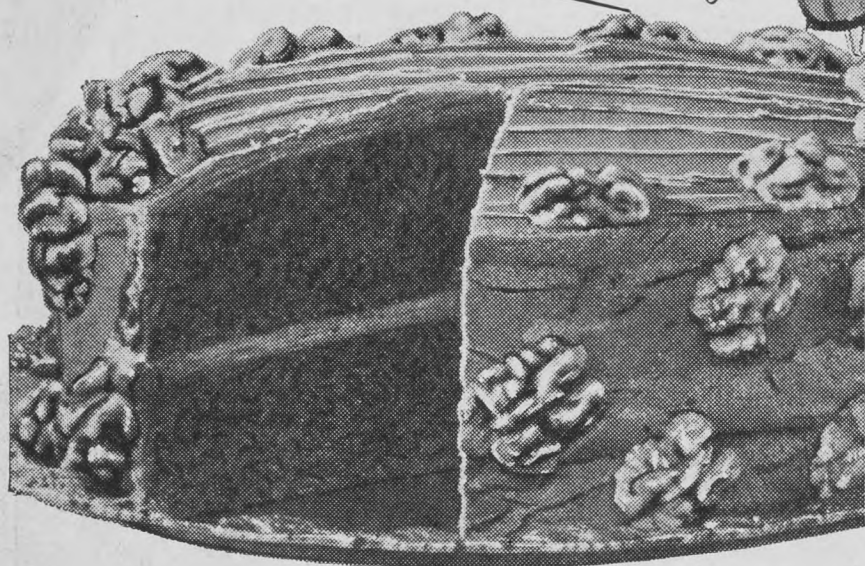
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Let's face it . . . *everything's* better about a cake that's made with your own care, your own fine ingredients! It has a tender lightness, a moisture that's just right—and that priceless home-made flavour. For perfect results every time, count on Magic Baking Powder. There's no substitute for the time-honoured Magic way . . . in cakes, biscuits, countless desserts! Have you Magic on hand now? Be sure, before your next baking!

Costs less than 1¢ per average baking.

MINTY MOCHA CAKE

- | | |
|--|--|
| 2 2/3 cups sifted pastry flour | 4 eggs |
| or 2 1/3 cups sifted all-purpose flour | 4 ounces (4 squares) unsweetened chocolate |
| 3 teaspoons Magic Baking Powder | 1 1/2 cups milk |
| 1 teaspoon salt | 1/2 teaspoon vanilla |
| 3/4 cup shortening | 1/8 teaspoon peppermint flavouring |
| 1 1/2 cups white sugar | |

Grease two 9-inch or three 8-inch round layer-cake pans. Preheat oven to 350° (moderate). Sift flour, Magic Baking Powder and salt together twice. Cream shortening; gradually blend in sugar. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition; melt and add chocolate. Combine milk, vanilla and peppermint flavouring. Add flour mixture to creamed mixture alternately with milk, combining lightly after each addition. Turn into prepared pans. Bake in preheated oven 30 to 35 minutes. Put cold cakes together with choice of filling and frost. Decorate with walnut halves.

MOCHA FROSTING—Cream 1/4 cup butter. Sift together 2 1/2 cups confectioner's sugar and 2 tablespoons cocoa; gradually add to butter, creaming constantly. Add about 3 tablespoons freshly made coffee to make mixture right consistency for spreading. Add a few grains salt. Mix well. If desired, a few drops of peppermint may be added to provide a mint flavour to the frosting.

New Ways . . .

*Modern recipes, equipment and precooked foods
shorten meal preparation time*

ADASH of this, a pinch of that, a scant cup of one thing, a coffee cup of something else—so went many of the recipes of 50 years ago. Often instructions were vague, measurements only approximate and long, slow cooking seemed to be the order of the day.

The oven was ready for cake baking when the hand could be held in from 35 to 45 seconds. Meat was roasted when a fork pierced it easily. Candy was cooked when a spoonful turned hard in cold water and fat was hot enough for doughnut frying when it reached the smoking point.

But times have changed! To keep pace with the more rapid rate of modern living and the desire of the home-maker for more leisure, time-saving equipment and numerous gadgets have moved into the kitchen. Electric mixers have taken the work out of mixing and beating, oven timers announce when food is to be removed from the oven and there is even an all-automatic stove which can be set to start the cooking at a specified time, shuts off automatically when the food is cooked.

Cake mixes, packaged puddings and fillings, instant coffee and tea, minute rice and tapioca shorten cooking time immensely. Canned and frozen fruit, vegetables, main dishes and dessert are available. Today, dinner actually can be made ready in five minutes.

Chocolate Chiffon Cake

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2 1/4 c. sifted cake flour | 1/2 c. salad oil |
| 1 3/4 c. sugar | 6 eggs |
| 4 tsp. baking powder | 3/4 c. water |
| 2 tsp. powdered instant coffee | 2 tsp. vanilla |
| 1 tsp. salt | 2 squares unsweetened chocolate |
| 1/4 tsp. cinnamon | 1/2 tsp. cream of tartar |

Separate eggs. Mix and sift together cake flour, sugar, baking powder, coffee, salt and cinnamon. Make a well, add in order, salad oil, egg yolks, water and vanilla. Beat with a spoon until smooth. Melt chocolate, add and blend well. Add cream of tartar to egg whites, beat until egg whites form very stiff peaks. Fold egg whites into mixture until well blended. Fold gently, do not stir. Turn batter into greased 10-inch tube pan. Bake at 375° F. for 70 to 75 minutes or until cake springs back when touched lightly with finger. Invert pan over funnel or bottle to cool; allow to stand until cold.

Loosen sides of cake with spatula; remove from pan, frost with Black Beauty icing.

Black Beauty Icing

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1/4 c. butter | 1/2 c. cocoa |
| 1/4 c. corn syrup | 3 1/2 c. sifted icing sugar |
| 1/4 tsp. salt | |
| 1/2 tsp. vanilla | 1-2 T. milk |

Cream butter; add corn syrup, salt and vanilla, blend well. Mix in cocoa thoroughly; add icing sugar alternately with milk, beating until smooth and creamy after each addition. Makes sufficient to cover 10-inch tube cake or 8-inch layer cake.

Satin Icing

Omit cocoa from above recipe. Increase vanilla to 1 teaspoon.

Cranberry Stack Cake

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 white cake mix | 1 c. cranberry sauce |
| 1 c. whipping cream | |

Make 2 8-inch layers of white cake following instructions on cake-mix box. Cool well. Whip cream. Split each layer in half. Spread with whipped cream and cranberry sauce between each layer ending with a brilliant red sauce on top.

Angel Pie

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 angel cake mix | 1 pkg. lemon pie filling |
| 1 c. whipping cream | |

Make angel cake as directed or use leftover angel cake. Tear into 2-inch pieces approximately. Make filling as instructed on package. Whip cream. Alternate in pan or bowl pieces of cake with filling and whipped cream. Mellow in refrigerator for several hours or overnight.

Blossom Cake

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2 1/2 c. sifted flour | 1 1/4 c. fine granulated sugar |
| 4 tsp. baking powder | 3/4 tsp. salt |
| 12 T. shortening | 3/4 c. milk |
| 1 1/2 tsp. vanilla | 4 egg whites |

Sift flour, baking powder and salt together twice. Cream shortening, blend in 1 c. sugar, cream well. Add vanilla to milk. Blend 1/2 milk into creamed mixture. Beat egg whites until stiff but not dry, gradually beat in remaining sugar. Add flour mixture to creamed mixture 1/4 at a time, alternating with 3 additions of remaining milk, combining lightly after each addition. Add meringue, fold gently until combined. Bake in two 8-inch layer pans for 30 to 35 minutes in 350° F. oven. Cool. Fill with lemon filling made with two of remaining egg yolks. Frost with yellow-tinted vanilla butter icing and decorate with candy blossoms.



Chiffon cake with old-time chocolate flavor wins family approval.

... With Old Favorites

A flavorful, nutritious meal is the aim, too, of modern homemakers

IDEAS concerning the cooking of meat have changed considerably during the last half century. Experiments have shown that moderate, even temperatures produce the most tender roasts and keep shrinkage at a minimum. Long, slow cooking in a heavy pan is accepted as the best method to bring out the flavor in pot roasts and stews. As for casseroles, combination meals and for leftovers preparation time is shortened with no loss in flavor by the use of canned soups, meats and fish, prepared sauces, biscuit and pastry mixer and other precooked foods.

Smaller, meatier cuts of meat, smaller chickens and turkeys, produced in answer to the demands of the homemaker with a smaller family and who has found more meat, less bone per cut to her advantage, is the aim of the modern livestock and poultry breeders. These smaller cuts reduce cooking time and they offer the best in flavor and nutrition.

Roast Lightweight Chickens

Weigh and prepare each bird for the oven. Place in shallow uncovered pan with rack. Bake at 375° F. for about 50 minutes per pound—estimating number of pounds as weight of one bird only.

Pork Casserole

1/2 c. rice 1 can tomato soup
2 large onions 4 pork chops

Put uncooked rice in casserole. Cover with sliced onion. Sprinkle with salt. Add layer of pork chops, then another layer of onions sliced. Dilute tomato soup as instructed on tin. Pour over foods in casserole to cover. Bake at 350° F. for one hour. Serves 4.

Meat Pie

1 1/2 c. flour 4 c. ground meat
1/2 c. shortening 4 T. gravy
1/8 tsp. salt 1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 c. cold water 1 onion
1/3 tsp. sage 1 small tomato

Chop onion and cut tomato into fine pieces. Scald onion, tomato and sage in 1/2 c. boiling water for 10 minutes. Then add ground meat, gravy, salt and pepper. Blend well. Make a pastry of flour, shortening, 1/8 tsp. salt and 1/4 c. cold water. Roll into large round, 1/8 inch thick. Place meat mixture on half of pastry. Fold other half over meat mixture. Press edges together. Make four slits in top of pastry. Place in oblong pan and bake to light brown in 375° F. oven for 25 minutes. Serve with favorite vegetables.

Jellied Pork Tongue

1 can pork 1/4 c. salad dressing
luncheon tongue 1/4 c. tart pickle
1 pkg. lemon 1 c. relish
gelatin 2 hard-cooked
1 T. prepared eggs
mustard

Prepare gelatin according to directions on package but use only 1 1/2 c. water. Cool until slightly thickened. Stir in salad dressing or mayonnaise, mustard and pickle relish. Chop canned tongue or use 2 c. cooked tongue. Spread half meat in quart loaf pan. Slice eggs and spread over meat. Pour on half gelatin dressing. Cover with remaining meat; pour over remaining gelatin dressing.



Choose smaller, meaty chickens for faster cooking.

Chill until very firm. To serve dip pan in large pan warm water. Turn out onto platter. Slice 1/2 inch thick.

Glazed-Broiled Ham Slice

2 T. orange 1 1 1/2- to 2-inch
marmalade slice ready-to-
1 T. peanut eat ham
butter

Heat broiling oven. Slash fat edges to prevent curling. Broil ham slice 3 inches from heat source for 10 minutes. Turn with tongs and broil until brown. Mix orange marmalade and peanut butter. Spread over ham slice. Return to oven for 1 minute. Serve hot. Yields 5 to 6 servings.

Rice Beef Balls

1 lb. ground beef 1/2 c. milk
3 T. chopped 1 tsp. salt
onion 1/8 tsp. pepper
1/4 c. uncooked rice 2 T. fat
1/4 c. cracker 1 c. cream of
crumbs tomato soup
1 c. mushroom 1/2 c. water
pieces, canned

Mix together thoroughly beef, onion, rice, crumbs, milk and seasonings. Shape with hands into 1-inch balls. Fry slowly in fat in heavy skillet. Turn to brown evenly. Add soup mixed with water. Cover and simmer 1 hour. Remove balls to hot platter. Stir mushrooms and liquid into gravy in pan. Boil up and serve in bowl to accompany meat balls.

Old-Fashioned Chicken Loaf

3 c. diced cooked 1/4 c. chicken
chicken gravy
1/2 c. mushroom 1/2 c. celery
pieces 1 tsp. salt
2 c. cooked 1/4 tsp. curry
noodles powder
2 eggs 1/8 tsp. pepper

Dice chicken, chop celery fine. Beat eggs. Combine ingredients using chicken gravy or broth. Place in greased loaf pan 9 by 5 inches. Bake at 350° F. for 1 hour. Turn out on platter; garnish with sliced beets and hard-cooked eggs.

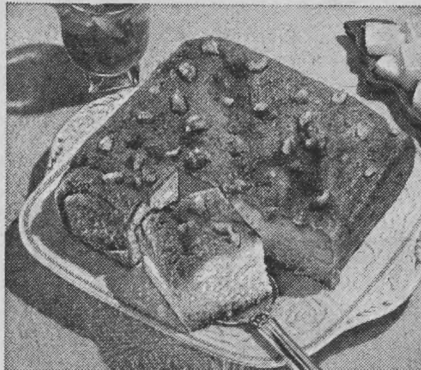
Beef and Kidney Stew

1/4 lb. kidney Flour, salt and
2 lb. stewing beef pepper
4 T. fat

Remove all white tubes from kidney. Cut into small pieces. Cover with cool water and bring to boil. Skim and drain. Repeat twice. Cut stew meat into 2-inch chunks. Roll in flour, salt and pepper mixture. Melt fat in heavy pan. Brown meat in fat until deep brown on all sides. Add treated kidney. Cover with boiling water. Simmer beneath boiling point for 1 1/2 to 2 hours or until tender. Taste; add salt, pepper and thickening to suit. Serve with a variety of vegetables.

One Basic Dough makes 4 yummy dessert treats!

1. Cinnamon Square



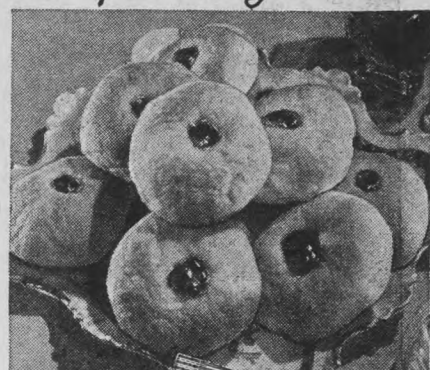
2. Apricot Figure 8



3. Fruit Coil



4. Sugared Jelly Buns



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NEEDS NO
REFRIGERATION

Basic COFFEE CAKE Dough

Scald

2 cups milk

Remove from heat and cool to lukewarm. In the meantime, measure into a large bowl

1/2 cup lukewarm water

2 teaspoons granulated sugar and stir until sugar is dissolved. Sprinkle with contents of

2 envelopes Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well. Stir in lukewarm milk and

4 well-beaten eggs

1 teaspoon vanilla

Sift together twice

7 cups once-sifted bread flour

1/2 cup granulated sugar

1 tablespoon salt

Cut in finely

3/4 cup butter

3/4 cup shortening

Stir about 6 cupsful into the yeast mixture; beat until smooth and elastic.

Work in remaining dry ingredients and

2 1/2 cups (about) once-sifted bread flour

Turn out on lightly-floured board and knead dough lightly until smooth and elastic. Place in a greased bowl and grease top of dough. Cover and set dough in a warm place, free from draught, and let rise until doubled in bulk. Turn out dough on lightly-floured board and knead lightly until smooth. Divide into 4 equal portions and finish as follows:

1. CINNAMON SQUARE

Combine 1/2 cup granulated sugar and 1 tsp. cinnamon; sprinkle on board. Place one portion of dough on sugar mixture and roll into a 12-inch square; fold dough from back to front, then from left to right; repeat this rolling and folding twice, using a little flour on the board, if necessary; seal edges. Place in greased 8-inch square pan; press out to edges. Grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled. Cream 2 tbsps. butter or margarine, 1/2 cup granulated sugar and 1/2 tsp. cinnamon; mix in 1/4 cup broken walnuts and 1 tsp. milk. Spread over risen dough. Bake at 350°, 30 to 35 mins.

2. APRICOT FIGURE EIGHT

Combine 1/2 cup brown sugar, 1 tbsp. flour, 1/4 tsp. mace and 1/2 cup finely-chopped nuts. Roll out one portion of dough into a rectangle about 22 by 6 inches. Spread with 2 tbsps. soft butter or margarine; sprinkle with nut mixture. Fold dough lengthwise into 3 layers. Twist dough from end to end; form into figure 8 on greased pan. Grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled. Bake at 350°, about 30 mins. Fill crevices of hot figure 8 with thick apricot jam; spread other surfaces with white icing; sprinkle with nuts.

3. FRUIT COIL

Knead into one portion of dough, 2 tbsps. grated orange rind, 1/2 cup raisins, 1/4 cup chopped nuts and 1/4 cup well-drained cut-up red and green maraschino cherries. Roll out dough, using the hands, into a rope about 30 inches long. Beginning in the centre of a greased deep 8-inch round pan, swirl rope loosely around and around to edge of pan. Brush with 2 tbsps. melted butter or margarine; sprinkle with mixture of 1/4 cup granulated sugar and 1 tsp. cinnamon. Cover and let rise until doubled. Bake at 350°, 35 to 40 mins.

4. SUGARED JELLY BUNS

Cut one portion of dough into 12 equal-sized pieces. Shape each piece into a smooth round ball; roll in melted butter or margarine, then in granulated sugar. Place, well apart, on greased pan; flatten slightly. Cover and let rise until doubled. Form an indentation in the top of each bun by twisting the handle of a knife in the top; fill with jelly. Cover and let rise 15 mins. longer. Bake at 350°, 15 to 18 mins.

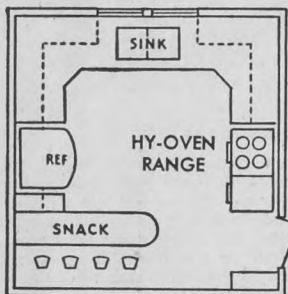
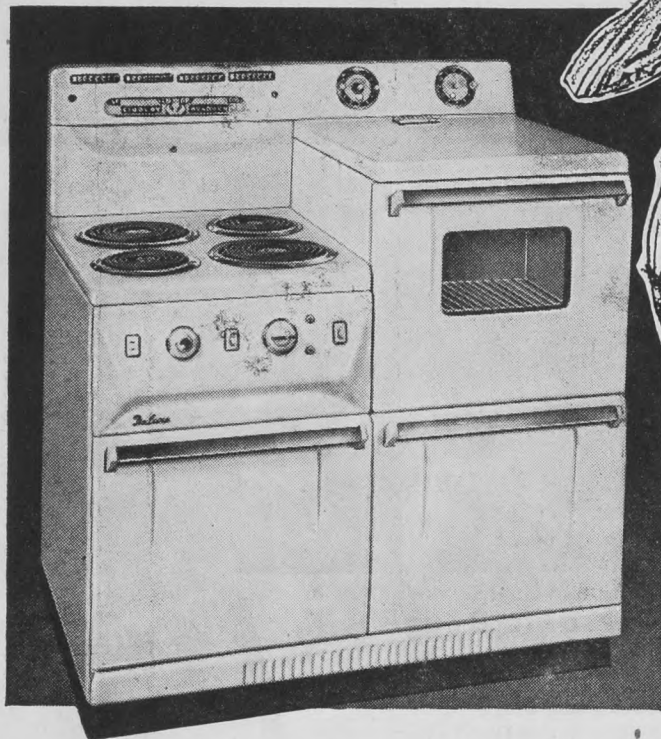
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A GOLDEN Party



by EFFIE BUTLER

JUBILEE ideas are in the air. Large community celebrations, as well as many smaller and private family functions, are using the provinces' birthday as their theme. Whether it be a 50th birthday or wedding anniversary there are many ways of introducing the "golden" idea into decorations and party planning.

The planning and arrangements for a golden wedding will be done, in most cases, by the daughters and sons of the couple celebrating the important occasion. It should be a time of gaiety and laughter and acknowledgement of the courage of the couple who built a home and molded a life for their children.

A dinner for the family and closest friends is usually given. Often an afternoon and evening reception, permitting a much longer guest list, is planned as many friends and kin have been gathered by this time in life. Invitations for such celebrations could be written or printed on fine note-paper in gold ink. For a special touch, add the family initial, monogram or a paste-on gold seal.

If the party is small, all the guests may be seated at one table. For a larger gathering the buffet meal is better. Let the guests carry their plates to small tables set up for the dinner.

On the central table use the loveliest linen you possess. A high tiered wedding cake frosted in white and decorated with gold leaves and gold candy trimettes makes a handsome centerpiece. You may choose a 50th anniversary motif from those available at most bakery shops for the top of the cake. This decoration is often prized as a souvenir of the day. The year of the marriage . . . or event . . . and the current one may be designed in gold on the bottom layer of the cake. On either side of the cake place tall gold candles.

Since grains are symbolic of the agricultural growth in the West why not choose graceful heads of oats and wheat for your floral decorations? No expensive roses or exotic orchids could more suitably express the achievements of half a century of prairie living.

Well-filled golden plumes of wheat or oats are beauty in themselves. Gather long-stemmed ones with a lavish hand. Go out to the head rows of an oat field and gather the flowering heads of oats that have bowed gracefully to the summer wind. Bring home a plentiful supply while they are still fresh in the harvest field and store them carefully against a time

later in the year when you may need them for decorations.

Before the oat and wheat heads are too dry and brittle you may add a glamorous touch to them by gilding them with gold paint if you prefer them that way instead of the natural golden color. Lay the heads carefully in rows on the table. Using a light hand and not too much paint on your brush, so the grain will be thinly coated but not clogged with paint, gild them with gold paint. Before they are completely dry stand them up in fruit jars or a similar container.

Lay golden wheat or oats on the table along the base of the tiered cake. Arrange matching white or crystal bowls between the candles and the end of the table and fill them with oats, and wheat, bouquets. Variety and a touch of color may be added by combining the grains with sprigs of rose hips, red berries of the hawthorn and Virginia creeper. Some of the grasses also may be gathered at this season and used effectively. If your table is large, strands of golden grain and berries laid diagonally to the corners in ribbon fashion will look beautiful against white linen.

Plain white cards with a narrow gold edge, which can be done with a pen or fine brush and gold ink by someone with a steady hand, make suitable place cards. To carry out the wheat idea, lightly outline the name on the card with a tiny trace of glue and set the golden kernels of wheat.

Small sheaves of grain may be used to decorate where space permits such as in a hall or community center. Gold foil paper, which comes in 20-inch widths and may be bought by the foot, attached in panels to a lattice-work screen or wall, makes an effective background for a head table. Gold foil can meet decorating needs in numerous other ways, too.

It is possible to carry on the golden theme by serving foods of that color. Choose the rich yellow of orange jelly for salads rather than lime or lemon. Keep in mind the bronze gold of pumpkin pie, golden ears of corn, the amber tone of apricots and sweet potatoes and the saffron shade of gold and orange cakes.

When it comes time to cut the cake the bride of 50 years ago cuts the first piece and shares it with her husband. Toasts to the couple, or to those honor guests, pioneers of the community, may be given at this time.

These suggestions may stir your imagination and lead you on to more and even better ways to mark a jubilee celebration in a really special way.

Prairie Childhood

by J. G. McKENZIE

IN many ways I was a fortunate child. My father was the kind of a man who made it easy for a child to believe in God as a kind and loving Heavenly Father.

Fortunate too, to have lived in the country and on the prairies.

When you grow up with the sun and the wind and the space of the Saskatchewan prairies, something of their freshness and freedom stays with you always, no matter where else you live afterwards.

Wind! Wind! There always seems to be wind on the prairies. The feel, sounds and smell of it, are embedded in my childhood memories.

The spring wind with the smell of wet earth; sounds of whispering young poplar leaves, croaking frogs and fussy nesting ducks down by the slough.

Signs of new life everywhere about: young colts, calves, chickens and fat little pigs. Shimmering green wheat, marking the seeddrill's path; the furry-coated crocus with heart of gold, carpeting the pasture and the roadsides with tinges of mauve.

Dust storms that could turn the world grey or sombre black and drive men and animals for shelter and etch deep lines of worry in my father's face.

The marvel of lengthening days! The long walk to school and the longer walk home!

The summer wind, hot and dry, holding both the threat of hail and the promise of rain. Long, long days with the added delights of picnics, baseball and summer fairs. The grain ripening and the berries ready for picking. Fresh peas in the garden! And always the wind, the warm wind stirring from the west.

Shifting fall winds bringing warm days and cool nights! The big round harvest moon, hanging low and yellow in the evening sky. The nip of frost in the air. The crowning glory of golden grain and the excitement of harvest.

The whirring of binders and the growing regiments of stooks stretching across the fields.

Threshing outfits and crews moving onto the place, sometimes at night to the accompaniment of waving lanterns, the shouts and laughter of men. The bustling preparations in the house with much cooking and preparation of field lunches. Always the anxious questions. How is it running? How will it grade? Will the weather hold? Which way is the wind?

Then winter! A glistening white world spread out before our eyes, miles and miles of it, under dazzling sunshine.

Stock housed in warm barns. Men's and children's wraps and heavy boots, mitts and mufflers about the house. Sleigh rides to school with brothers, sisters and neighbors. Straw and blankets on the bottom of the sleigh box. Sleigh bells jingling and the sharp crunch of snow beneath the runners. Your breath an instant white in the frosty air. There were moonlight rides too, with a pale blue light surrounding us as we made visits, went to a dance or the Christmas concert.

Winter wind was made visible to the eye by the snow drifting across the ground, the sinister curlicues that grew into driving blizzards. Evil blinding force of snow and wind, howling outside, rattling doors and windows of the house.

Inside, with fires going, and wood stacked nearby, things were cozy. We children did our homework by lamp-light or read books while father read the paper and mother did the family mending. There was plenty of lively conversation until it was time to be off to bed.

The picture of father sitting beside the fire with a small girl on his lap, still lingers in my memory. It represented warmth and security: the year's work done.

Yes, I was a lucky child.

The Country Store

by LOUISE HARRISON

THE first country store of my memory was more than just a store. In a sense it expressed a way of life. Efficient market chain and department stores of today are a far cry from the early pioneer "general" stores. While I may approve and commend the modern, a corner of my heart treasures an affection for the old.

The town could be any small prairie town, for they all ran pretty much to a pattern: a livery barn, a blacksmith shop, a restaurant, sometimes a small hotel, the post office and the general store which served the needs of everyone for miles around. There was a hitching rack in front of it.

There never was such a mingling and confusing of odors, as greeted the nostrils upon entering this little country store. A chapter of a book, written on early Alberta days, might

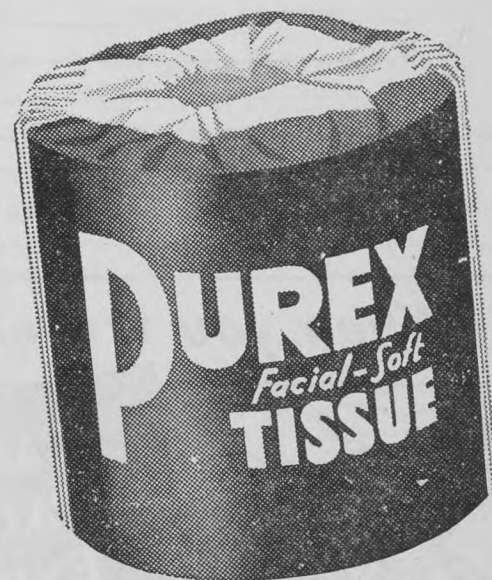
well be devoted to that topic alone. It reeked of leather from the pile of new harness, lying in the back corner or hanging from the rafters. It was spiced with ginger, from the huge ginger snap barrel, standing open in another corner. The odor from the soda biscuit barrel beside it, could not compete with the one-gallon coal oil tins, standing in a row on the floor, though these latter had their spouts stopped with raw onions, waiting for customers to pick them up. A few bolts of dry goods, on the shelves, gave off a starchy calico odor that sent work-calloused fingers lingeringly exploring.

A brass cuspidor stood beside the pot-bellied iron stove in the middle of the floor. The men of the neighborhood gathered round it. At this favorite rendezvous they argued politics and told "tall" stories. If some of the stories were really stretched, who could



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blame the narrators? These men were isolated, hungry for companionship and craved a share of attention from their fellows.

The proprietor, Old Tim, was past middle age, a kindly, paunchy man, somewhat puffed and flabby from inactivity. Tim Hanley always had a word for the children. They had a special place in his heart as did the old yellow cat, which curled up, dozing in some spot where a cat shouldn't be. Many a dollar's worth of all-day suckers Tim thrust into grimy little hands each year. And many a family grocery box had its nickel's worth of mixed, hard candy from the store's huge candy pails on the counter, tucked in a small paper bag into a deep corner among the parcels.

BARTER was an accepted form of trade. Farmers' wives would bring in a few pounds of butter, neatly covered by a white cloth, or several dozen eggs packed in a pail of oats or sawdust. Some of the more enterprising women would spend evenings making tallow candles. These things would be handed across the counter in exchange for other necessities in the store. The housewife who by means of much planning and conniving could manage to make her grocery money enough to extend to cover the price of a few yards of pretty calico or muslin, was happy indeed.

If a farmer had had a run of bad luck, Old Tim would trust him until things picked up again. Trust is the right word, for Tim did not bother with bookkeeping and accounts. Amid all the confusion and conglomeration of the place, our storekeeper was never confused. Let a customer ask for something that was nowhere in sight, perhaps hadn't been for weeks; Old Tim would thrust his hand deep under some pile of goods, be it hardware or dry goods, and come up with the wanted article. "Hal" he would say and the gleam in his eye conveyed his unspoken comment—"knew it was there all the time."

Things were bought and sold in bulk, ladled out of barrel, pail or wooden box. Today's neat cellophane and plastic containers were unknown and might have been frowned upon if they had been. Our neatly sealed packages, so necessary now, wouldn't have fitted into Old Tim's store. The men would not have had the ginger snap barrel to dip into as they swapped yarns, in a haze of pipe tobacco smoke, around the stove. In fact with such efficiency we couldn't have had a proprietor like Old Tim. Yet he and others like him were figures who played an important part in building up the country. Without such men, many a lonely, hardworking homesteader might not have had the heart to "stick it out" in the West.



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by ANNA LOREE

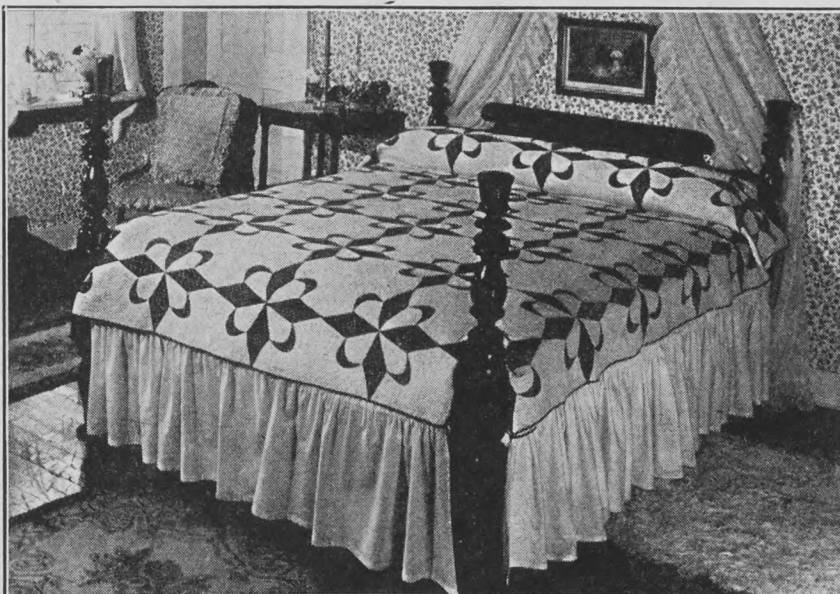


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For cool afternoons and evenings these smart cover-ups are just right. The gaily embroidered bolero features a cross-over buttoned front and a one-inch fringe. The contrasting embroidery is composed of three lazy daisy stitches with two black beads as a base. The crocheted jacket has a single fastening at the neck and is edged with white. Leaflet includes instructions for sizes 12 and 14 bolero, sizes 12, 14 and 16 jacket. You will need 15 balls mercerized cotton for bolero and steel crochet hooks No. 00 and No. 1; 12 balls mercerized cotton for jacket with plastic crochet hook No. 5. Design No. CS-463. Price 10 cents.

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Pineapples, the favorite of all crochet designs, make a tablecloth of 54 by 68 inches. For the bride-to-be or homemaker of any age nothing could be nicer. As a family heirloom it is priceless. Each motif is four and one-half inches square, 12 rows of 15 motifs make the tablecloth. The design is also effective as a bedspread—16 by 24 motifs make a single bedspread, 20 by 24 motifs a double bed size. You will need 24 balls white or ecru size 30 crochet cotton and a No. 10 steel crochet hook. Design No. PD-7775. Price 10 cents.



Design No. S-CN 11

Stars and crescents combine to make this delightful quilt design. You will use it with pride in the master bedroom. And in the years to come it will be one of your prized possessions. Four units make up each block—note when cutting your cardboard pattern that only half of two of these units is given in the pattern. The quilting lines

follow the star-and-crescent design and a small leaf outline fills in the large areas between. For a single bed size, 73 by 105 inches, you will need 11 yards white and 7 yards blue polka dot fabric. Design No. S-CN 11. Price 10 cents.

Address all orders to The Country Guide Needlework Dept., Winnipeg 2.

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The city dweller usually has a pension plan arranged by his employer as a basis for his retirement. But the farmer must lay his own foundation for independence in old age.

Our representative in your community is specially trained to show you how Life Insurance provides the surest way for you to guarantee a regular income for yourself and your wife in your later years.

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PEOPLE are TALKING about



PINEAPPLE DELIGHT

INGREDIENTS

- 36 marshmallows
- 1 cup of milk
- 1 pint whipping cream
- 1 9-ounce can crushed pineapple
- 15 PAULIN'S Graham Wafers

METHOD

In double boiler, dissolve marshmallows in the milk until they can be stirred into a smooth consistency. Cool. Whip cream and fold UNDRAINED pineapple into it. Combine with marshmallow mixture. Roll Graham Wafers very fine and put half in shallow pan. Cover with cream mixture and spread remaining crumbs on top. Chill thoroughly . . . cut into squares and serve!

Paulin's
Now on sale at leading grocers everywhere.

The Countrywoman

Continued from page 61

of a household was based on the sciences and what she wanted was to get the farmer's wife the kind of science that would keep her abreast with the progress of the age.

The W.I. movement was growing apace in Ontario, due in large measure to the inspiration of one woman, Adelaide Hoodless. A child's death might have been prevented if she had had knowledge such as was given to farmers in their care of animals, which was not available to women. Superintendent Putnam, in his annual report on Ontario W.I., attempted to correct a misconception: "that the W.I. was a movement for the purpose of teaching women to farm . . ." The main object was, he said, to instruct women home-keepers in methods which would lessen their work and increase its efficiency. Mothers and daughters are given an opportunity for social intercourse and interchange of ideas, for which they have not had an opportunity in any other organization.

"We should like to see a similar organization established in Manitoba and the Territories," said Mr. Putnam. "The farmers' wives of the West, on account of their isolation, would appreciate the benefits of such a movement. They deserve everything of this sort which may be utilized to break up the monotony of everyday life, be a means of bringing inspiration and a help to carry the burdens of management of a household."

That same year an item of news reported: "The Doukhobor women of the Yorkton colony have picked ten tons of seneca roots." And on the same page another item: "The Doukhobor settlement north of Yorkton has a new steam plow, which turns over 25 acres a day. In addition they have six engines, two traction and four portable threshing machines and four sawmills—all run by their own engineers."

Gas engines were so new, that many farmers were writing the editor expressing a fear that they would "blow up." The magazine employed a specialist to advise his readers on gas engine operation and care.

Beef rings were so new, that the magazine felt called upon to explain: "These are not, as the name might seem to indicate, 'trusts' for the control of the production and sale of beef but are groups of farmers, usually from 16 to 20, who co-operate to supply their tables with fresh meat during the summer."

THERE was a "Household" section to the magazine, evidently contributed by special writers, with Dorothy Dale, of Alberta, writing regularly on home dressmaker topics. Dresses were complicated garments those days, of many gored skirts, fitted basques, mutton-leg sleeves.

There is the comment: "The farm house, in this country, with a kitchen sink is very rare indeed . . . with a great deal of kitchen work and a small amount of help for its performance, such a convenience would considerably lighten the labor of the busy housewife."

"One of the most prevalent diseases in this country," writes the editor in a strong leading article, "is typhoid fever and yet it is a trouble about

which, amongst most people, there is considerable ignorance." He continues to explain the cause, its spread from polluted water supply and by flies, and proper sanitary measures for waste disposal.

You may learn much from the advertisements in a magazine, as well as from its editorial matter. This was the heyday period for patent medicines. Full-page ads making claims for a "cure" for aches, pains, lack of energy or weak nerves. They overshadowed even the farm machinery companies in their appeal for attention. The greatest space-user was possibly Royal Crown Soap in full- or double-page display, lavishly illustrated. The wrappers counted—you could collect them and exchange them for a wide variety of premiums: cloth-bound or paper-bound books, selected from a long list of popular and classic titles, framed or unframed pictures, clocks, watches, jewellery of all sorts, a bisque doll or a wedding ring—all for a given number of soap wrappers.

HOUSEHOLD hints indicate much activity in the farm kitchen, which is unknown today. Knives needed frequent polishing—a woman is advised to "warm the board for a few minutes, first. The knives will polish easier." The cast iron cookstove and heater were giving place to attractive kitchen ranges which, according to the advertiser, "required 8,000 strokes to produce its steel plate and malleable iron frame." In many homes "black lead polish" had to be applied to both kitchen stove and heater.

The churn too, was featured, but by this time it had a side handle and a foot treadle, which allowed the operator to sit while working. Items on care of coal oil lamps, proper types in size and material, remind us of a tedious task which had to be done frequently in those days. Directions were furnished for mixing ingredients for "egg pickling" fluid. The barrel or keg should, according to directions, be stored in a cool, dark cellar.

"The old iron pots, which our grandmothers used," writes a contributor "had the virtue of being capacious and durable but they were back-breakers to handle, even when empty. Until the expense of manufacturing aluminum is reduced it is not likely to become universally popular in the kitchens of the land."

Though Canada had a pure food law standing for many past years on its statute books, there were frequent offences. "The analysis of the Inland Revenue Department, according to official reports (in 1905) show that the adulteration of spices is being carried on in a wholesale way. In 53 per cent of the cases where asked to supply pure foods, they sold adulterated. Of 66 samples of pepper collected in the West, 38 per cent were adulterated.

For home entertainment pianos and organs offered the possibility of music and sing-songs. A gramophone that "talks, laughs, sings and plays" could be purchased at from \$15 to \$50—with \$1.00 down and easy payment plan, plus three seven-inch records, of the purchaser's choice. Or the young person could purchase a magic lantern at a lesser price on the same easy payment plan. But commentators, then as now, worried about the amount of "credit" used.

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Styled to Flatter

No. 1205—Flatteringly simple for around the house or an afternoon in town this button-front dress features a slightly flared skirt, square neckline softened with twin tucks and short sleeves. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years; 40 and 42-inch bust. Size 18 requires $4\frac{1}{8}$ yards 35-inch or $3\frac{3}{8}$ yards 44-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 1007—This half-size fashion specially sized for women five-foot-three or under may be a softly fitted suit or two-piece dress. Note the flattery of the slightly flared skirt, the notched collar and short or three-quarter sleeves. Sizes $12\frac{1}{2}$, $14\frac{1}{2}$, $16\frac{1}{2}$, $18\frac{1}{2}$, $20\frac{1}{2}$, $22\frac{1}{2}$ and $24\frac{1}{2}$ (31 to 43-inch bust). Size $18\frac{1}{2}$ (37) requires $4\frac{3}{8}$ yards 35-inch or $2\frac{3}{4}$ yards 54-inch material. Price 50 cents.

No. 4961—A softly draped neckline and flowing skirt make this half-size fashion extra becoming for the woman five-foot-three or under. Cuffed sleeves are unmounted and the yoke may match or contrast in color or fabric. Sizes $12\frac{1}{2}$, $14\frac{1}{2}$, $16\frac{1}{2}$, $18\frac{1}{2}$, $20\frac{1}{2}$, $22\frac{1}{2}$, $24\frac{1}{2}$ (31 to 43-inch bust). Size $18\frac{1}{2}$ (37) requires $4\frac{3}{8}$ yards 35-inch and $\frac{1}{2}$ -yard contrast for yoke. Price 50 cents.

No. 1091—This graceful long-torso dress is fashioned with a six-gore flared skirt and bands of self trim on the unmounted sleeves and keyhole-shaped neckline. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years; 40 and 42-inch bust. Size 18 requires $4\frac{1}{8}$ yards 36-inch or $3\frac{7}{8}$ yards 44-inch material. Price 50 cents.

No. 1245—A white collar adds a crisp, cool note to this dress designed to fit and flatter all figures. The skirt flares to 107 inches and the cuffed, unmounted sleeves may be short or three-quarter length. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years; 40, 42 and 44-inch bust. Size 20 requires $4\frac{1}{8}$ yards 35-inch or $3\frac{3}{8}$ yards 44-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 1132—This casual afternoon dress has as its accent a new shaped collar caped in the back, dipping to a deep V in the front. The sleeves are short and the skirt may be flared as shown in the illustration or slim and straight as in the second version shown on the pattern. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years; 40 and 42-inch bust. Size 18 requires $5\frac{1}{8}$ yards 35-inch or 4 yards 44-inch material. Price 50 cents.

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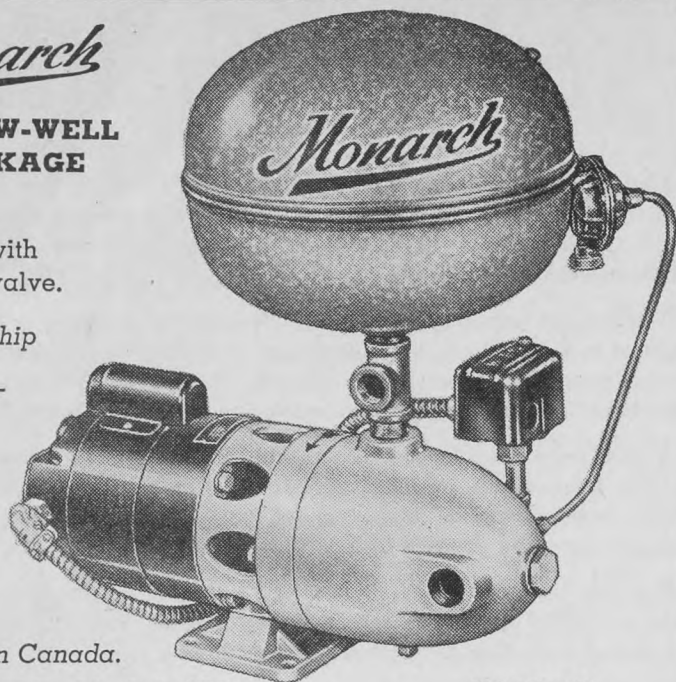
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Nellie Went Away

Continued from page 62

parents; his father burned red brown and his moustache and thinning hair bleached by the sun, his mother, short, stocky and decisive; his nine-year-old brother Sammy wriggling his bare toes and eyeing me speculatively. And Nellie. It was Nellie who ran with open arms to help me from my seat, whose wide-mouthed smile and loving eyes made me feel that all was well with the world so long as she was in it.

"So here's Marychen," she said. It was my first experience of the German suffix of endearment, but Nellie's way of saying it was all the translation it needed. "Wouldn't you like a glass of milk and a cookie? Or maybe butter-milk fresh from the churn?"

"Buttermilk, please," I said. I had never tasted it, but this was a day of new experiences and I didn't want to miss one. After the hot, dusty drive the cool, sharp taste of it was refreshing, and the small, golden globules of butter floating in it an extra dividend.

Two more people made up the family group, Aunt Trudy and Grandfather Becker, who had driven over to greet me for my father's sake. Aunt Trudy was tall and thin, with sad eyes but a nice smile. Later Nellie told me that she had a lover who was away working in Vancouver but they couldn't get married because Aunt Trudy had to keep house for grandfather. He was a quiet old man who spoke most of the time in German which, as the weeks went by, my ear became tuned to, though my tongue never quite adapted itself.

THAT first day on the farm was crammed with a score of delights. There was the mirror in the spare room, where Nellie took me to wash the dust of my journey from me and change into a fresh cotton dress, which did the queerest things to my face. There was the large "cow-breakfast" hat which Nellie gave me to put on when we went to the garden to pick raspberries for supper. There were the berries themselves, red and amber, exhaling a faint fragrance as we brought them in and put them into a glass bowl. There was the food on the table, different, appetizing. Scarlet globes of radish in a dish lined with peppergrass, creamy-white *schmeer-case* in a blue bowl, cheek by jowl with a platter of home-cured ham that had been soaked in vinegar, two plates of home-made bread, fresh doughnuts and old-fashioned sugar cookies and, of course, our berries.

There was the initiation into the ritual of going for the cows, which Sammy offered to let me share, though he was scornful of my disinclination to go too near them as we followed their switching tails up the grassy lane from the pasture to the barn. There was the whirring sound of the separator and the chore of cleansing and scouring its intricacies, and finally the dreamy hour merging into twilight when the family rested from its labors on the verandah hung with wild-cucumber vines.

Drowsy and exhausted with the intensities of the day, I was quite ready, when Nellie suggested it, to go to bed. My last conscious thought was that this wasn't like other exciting days I had known, the last of its kind for months and months. I needn't fight off sleep to hang on to it. An endless

succession of them stretched away ahead, and the best part of them all was Nellie, who seemed to love me and whom I adored with every heart-beat.

On Saturday night she put my hair up in curls, long, sausage-like appendages wound somehow over strips of cotton and very uncomfortable to sleep on, but worth it, both for the transformation hoped for and the ministrations of Nellie.

"There," she said, tying the last end. "I've always wanted a little sister to put up in curls and tuck into bed at night and wake in the morning to give her her breakfast."

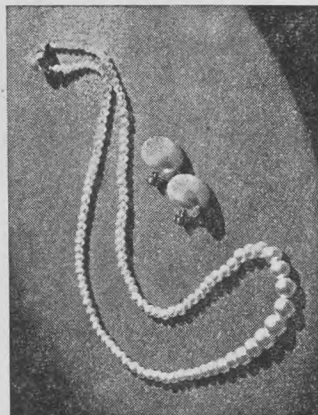
I caught her hand and held it against my cheek. No one had ever concentrated as much attention on me as she had. My father and mother loved me, I knew, but there were four other children who had to be loved and looked after, too. No one of us ever expected to be singled out for praise beyond the line of duty. If one of us were prettier than another in Sunday white and leghorn sailor, our parents would never hurt the others by showing it. So to be fussed over by Nellie, to be admired by her when on Sunday morning my curls were unwound and combed around her finger, to be her special care, was food and drink to me.

When a violent thunderstorm blew up in the middle of the night and it seemed as though the thunder would flatten what hadn't been blasted by the lightning, I knew that Nellie would come into my room for fear I might be scared. If a sudden cold turn came just before dawn, it was Nellie who crept in to put an extra quilt over me.

Each day confirmed me in my belief that going away to a perfectly new place was the most wonderful adventure one could have. And if for me, who had come a comparatively few miles from home, how much more so for Nellie. The exciting day of her departure for Saskatchewan glimmered away on the horizon, like one of the big stars I saw in the night sky when my lamp was put out and I pulled up the window blind just before getting into bed.

"Before Nellie goes" ran like an obligato over and above every day's doings. The phrase gathered about itself a dreamlike quality that repetition enhanced rather than dulled, one of those things that the mind knew but that conveyed little to the emotions of itself. The extra things that happened because of it were the important things. We had to drive over to Uncle Carl's before Nellie went. We had to have a picnic to the Glen before Nellie went, where we all went paddling in the pool below a shallow waterfall.

At times I lived in a fever of excitement, and yet I loved the quiet hours, too, that Sammy and I spent doing the hundred and one things there are to do on a farm. There were also times when we were quarrelsome and he would go his way and I mine, which was always to Nellie. It was very soothing to be handed an embroidery frame and initiated into the mysteries of eyelet embroidery. But after awhile Sammy would call that it was time to go and hunt the eggs, and I would decide that injured innocence and eyelet embroidery were not for me.



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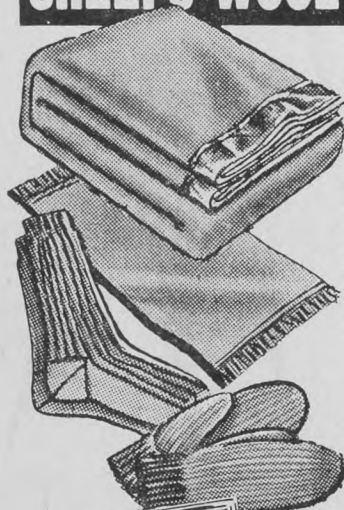
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THE hay was all in, the grain began to turn golden yellow and there was talk of threshing in the air when early one August evening we heard a whole procession of wheels coming up the drive — four carriage loads of cousins and friends come to give Nellie a surprise party. Sammy and Bobs and I ran in and out among the disembarking guests, adding our own contribution to the sum of noise and laughter. Eventually Dan helped the boys to unhitch and stable the horses while Nellie and Aunt Trudy, who had come over before supper with Grandfather Becker, swept the girls into the parlor. A long, impatient wait for the boys ended in Aunt Trudy going out to the barn and shooing them in. They came in, stiff with self-consciousness, and conversation languished altogether until Aunt Trudy said briskly, "Let's have a sing."

She brought out piles of yellowing music, and in sorting them over the tension eased. Two lamps were brought and set, one on each side of the organ on small round shelves jutting out for that purpose. Nellie twirled the tasselled stool to the right height and took her place on it.

Everybody gathered around her, the boys keeping pretty well to themselves for the first few songs, leaning with their arms on one another's shoulders. Gradually they and the girls mingled and once or twice I caught sight of a small hand held in a larger one. I sat on the horsehair sofa, bolstered by cushions with huckaback embroidery covers, and let myself drift with the music. Though my ears were sealed against the meaning of the words some remained with me — "du, du, liebste mir im Herzen" and "du hast das herze mein."

The older members of the family came in to listen. Grandfather Becker sat in a straight chair near me, bowed over his cane, his white bearded chin resting on his gnarled hands. Once he spoke. His voice was almost smothered by the babble of voices between songs, but Mrs. Becker rescued it from oblivion.

"Children," she called, "grandfather says will you sing 'Ein feste burg?'"

They obeyed. Irresistibly Mr. and Mrs. Becker joined in. On Grandfather Becker's face there was a faraway look and he nodded his head slowly in time to the music. Just behind him, at one end of the room, a door in the outside wall stood open. Since no steps bridged the gap between it and the ground below, its chief use was for ventilation. Through it now the night air carried into the room scents of earth and growing things. Just outside it was a tree of harvest apples and from where I sat I could see the pale globes, at first clearly defined, melting gradually into the shadowed green boughs until at length the night gloom claimed them and only the whispering of the leaves remained as proof of their presence. Now and again I could hear the soft thud of one falling.

But most of my awareness was for Nellie, sitting there on the organ stool directly in front of me, with her neat waist and puffed leg-of-mutton sleeves and the aureole of her hair in the lamplight. These were only brief glimpses as the group of singers shifted positions or wandered back and forth between songs. But even when I didn't see her, she was the center of it all, adding fascinating

grace notes to the accompaniments, as she did to everything.

The party finally broke up and the boys went out to hitch up the horses while the girls got their wraps. Sammy and I took this opportunity to run out, barefooted, back and forth across the lawn to feel the dew on our feet. When good-byes were said I ran to stand with a possessive arm around Nellie's waist. These others had to go and leave her behind. I was the fortunate one who didn't have to say good-bye.

One after another the buggies left. The diminishing sound of hoofbeats

and turning wheels came back to us through the darkness, and clearly, for one moment, echoes of laughter. We turned to go into the house, my eyes heavy now with sleep, for it was the latest I had ever stayed up. Nellie put her arm around me and I leaned my head against her puffy sleeve.

"Did you like the singing, Mary-chen?" she asked.

"I liked best to hear you playing," I said. "I wish I could play the organ."


"Perhaps before I go I could teach you a bit," Nellie said.

I sighed deeply. It was one more of the wonderful things linked by the

phrase, "Before Nellie goes." Because of it all, even the day on which she was to leave loomed in my mind as a sort of grand climax, in which all the golden threads of summer would be gathered together in some sort of unimaginable glory.

BUT when that day came on the heels of a flurry of sewing and packing and despatching of correspondence to and from dim official figures, it wasn't at all what I had expected. It was like Sunday, yet not like Sunday. The house was shining like Sunday, but there seemed no place in it that morning for Sammy and me, so

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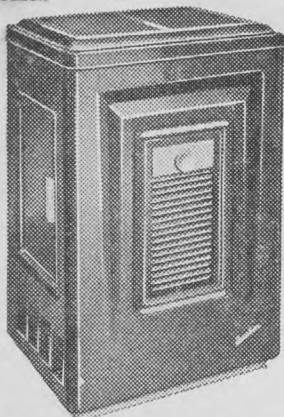
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soon after breakfast we ran down to our favorite spot by the creek and busied ourselves trying to catch minnows, and building small dams of pebbles to see the water swirl them and finally carry them away.

A vast hunger drove us back to the house at the usual hour to a dinner that was unusually lavish. Nobody ate much of it except Sammy and me. I had a guilty feeling about taking a second piece of elderberry pie and enjoying it so much. When it came time to do the dishes Mrs. Becker insisted that Nellie go upstairs and finish her packing.

"But ma," she protested, "I want to help. It'll be the last—"

"No," Mrs. Becker said emphatically. "Go—go."

NELLIE went reluctantly. I watched her mounting the stairs, longing to follow, to be with her while she gathered together her last few things, but before I left home I had been told that never, under any circumstances, should I neglect helping with the dishes. So, while Mrs. Becker's reddened hands brought cup after cup, plate after plate, knives, forks and spoons from the sudsy pan, I wiped and was shaken with regret for all the hours I had spent roaming here and there when I might have been with Nellie. Newly sensitive to emotional currents, the silence between us told me as plainly as if the words had been spoken, that Mrs. Becker didn't want there to be a last time. She didn't want, when the supper dishes were being done, to think, "Last time Nellie was here doing them with me." I patted the final pan with my damp towel and set it on the back of the stove to dry.

Mrs. Becker went upstairs, her feet making heavy sounds on the painted boards. Nobody seemed to want me particularly. I stood at the bottom of the steps for a minute, but hadn't the courage to go on up, lacking a definite call. There was still two hours and a bit before Minnie was to be hitched up to take Nellie and her father to the station for the five o'clock train. I went outside to join Sammy. We had a vague idea that it might be worth while to go over to the woodlot and hunt for fan-shaped fungus, but as we rounded the barn to cut across the cornfield a hail from the barn stopped us. It was Dan.

"Hey, you kids. You're to stick around within earshot for a while."

We stared blankly at each other, then back toward Dan, and without a word turned back into the orchard. This was the first time we had been stopped from doing something we had always been allowed to do on our own time. A curious heaviness hung over the next hour. We saw Mr. Becker, straw hat in his hand, come eventually from the barn and go into the house. Bobs scampered back and forth, trying to encourage us to do likewise, then came to lie, panting, in the tangled grass near us. Dan appeared, went into the carriage shed, pulled the buggy out, went to the stable, appeared again with Minnie, and hitched her up. Then he led her near the kitchen door and tied her to a post.

"Come on now, kids," he called to us. "You're wanted inside."

This was it. Nellie was really going. And it wasn't at all as I had imagined it would be. There was no

aura of excitement about far places and shining new experiences, only a call to go into a house that was strangely unlike itself. Everyone was there in the big, bright kitchen. I sidled onto a chair, my heart thumping uncomfortably. Mrs. Becker sat in her place at the foot of the table as if it were mealtime. Dan went to the couch under the window with the pots of geraniums and sat looking down at the floor, his hands clasped between his knees. Dappling shadows from the vines out on the verandah made uneasy patterns on the linoleum. Flies buzzed against the screen door more loudly than I had ever heard, but then, I had never known the kitchen so quiet. Sammy went over and perched on the edge of the woodbox.

Queerest of all was the sight of Nellie, sitting at one side of the table in her best dress and a big hat with a veil tied around it and under her chin. It had been bought specially for the journey, from the mail order catalogue. I thought of the day she made out the slip while I checked the number for her and re-read the description, "Elegant lady's hat in fine Milan, trimmed with corded ribbon band and wing." I tried to keep my mind now on that wing. It stood up squarely in front of the crown with a jauntiness that contrasted with Nellie's grave face and tightly folded hands.

Mr. Becker, also looking strange in his Sunday suit, went to the clock shelf and took down the Bible. He leafed through the pages as though he knew what he was looking for, sat down, spread the book open on the table, cleared his throat and began: "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name."

Suddenly I was unable to look at Nellie any longer and tried to concentrate on the moving shadows on the floor. Mr. Becker read on, sometimes stopping in the middle of a word. "As far as the east is from the west. . . ." I heard a muffled sob, but where it came from I didn't know. It might even have come from my own throat. Mr. Becker's voice went more slowly now until he came to the last verse, "Bless the Lord, all His works in all places of His dominion."

I looked up and saw him closing the Bible. For a moment even the flies were silent and the shadows on the floor stopped their restless movements. Then he set the Bible back beside the clock and said, "Time to start."

I HAD never seen a grown-up cry. I had never dreamed that grown-ups did cry. To see Mrs. Becker now, choking behind her handkerchief, to see a big man like Mr. Becker, the lord of all these acres and head of a household, with tears in his eyes was like the end of the world. Now I knew what Nellie's going meant. It was a physical pain in my chest, a monstrous thing swelling up and making it hard to breathe. Nothing I could do, not even crying, could rid me of it or ease it.

Going away wasn't fun after all. Going away meant not seeing the one you loved, perhaps forever and ever. It meant doing dishes by yourself, and waking in the morning and having breakfast without the person who always made breakfast a wonderful beginning to a wonderful day. And it meant coming in from sunshine to a house that seemed empty, and the lamps being lit, but no Nellie.

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"Now ma. Now pa," she said, putting her arm through her mother's, and her voice didn't sound at all like Nellie's.

Dan went upstairs and brought down her bulging Gladstone bag. I followed him out and watched him put it on my favorite little seat. The rest came in a minute, Mrs. Becker with a box of lunch for Nellie, her father brushing the crown of his hard hat with his sleeve before he put it on.

"Now be sure to write us when you get there," her mother said in a funny, tight way.

"Yes, I will, ma." Nellie leaned to kiss her and I looked away toward the apple trees, not wanting to see Mrs. Becker's face when they drew apart.

"Good-bye, Sammy," Nellie said, hugging him hard. "Be a good boy and maybe I'll send you an Indian arrow-head. Good-bye, Dan. See you—see you next summer." She turned to me. "Good-bye, Marychen. I'm sorry I never got around to those organ lessons." She kissed me, holding me close. My lips were cold. I was freezing right through. Things would never be the same. There would never be another summer.

Mr. Becker untied the reins. "Come now," he said. "You know Minnie won't stand."

He helped Nellie up and jumped in beside her. Before anyone could give a last lingering look or say a single word, Minnie was off like the wind, her hooves smiting the road, the iron tires of the buggy wheels grating on the gravel, leaving us alone. Mrs. Becker turned away and Dan with her.

Sammy and I ran down the drive a few paces, shielding our eyes against the sun with our hands. Then we plodded through the orchard toward the pig pen, picking up a few windfalls as we went. We listlessly threw the apples at the pigs, but they didn't even snort, just flapped lazy ears and went on dozing in the sun. Suddenly, as if impelled by the identical thought, Sammy and I walked down past the barn to the lane. We climbed the gate and sat astride the top bar, looking down the zigzag parallels of the fencing toward the cedar swamp.

As if the lane continued across the swamp, there was an open space between the trees across which, far along, the main road cut at right angles. Soon, framed between the sombre, cedary green we saw a grey horse, a top buggy, and a figure in a big hat tied around with a veil, leaning forward as if looking at us. Before we could lift an arm to wave, they were gone, and all we saw was a puff of dust that rolled and lifted and rose, and dissolved into nothingness.

After a long time Sammy said, "Let's go up in the haymow."

We clambered down and shuffled back to the barn and climbed the ladder to the mow. It smelled sweet about us. Thin shafts of sunshine speared through the spaces between the boards, alive with a myriad particles of dust and chaff.

We dared each other to feats we had never before attempted. We climbed higher than we had ever climbed, right to the peak of the roof, and slid farther down than we had ever found courage to slide. Over and over we repeated it, screaming at the tops of our voices, but glory and satisfaction had gone from it forever.

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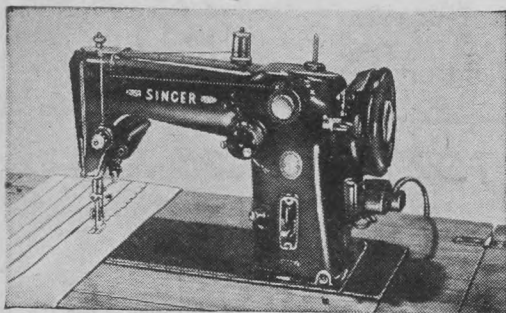
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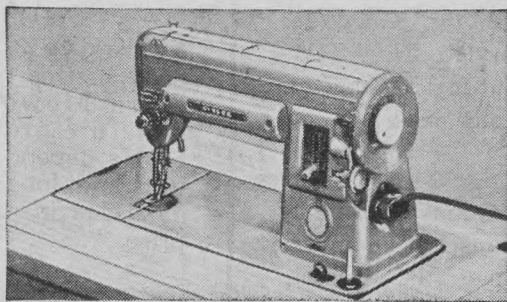


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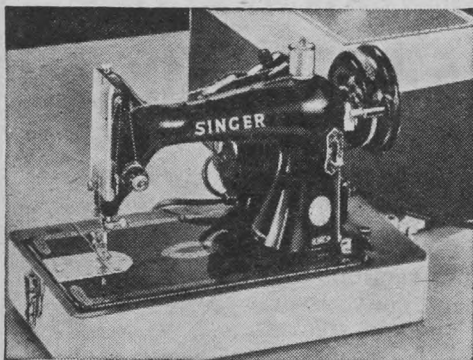


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The Bad Old Winter

Reminiscences of the long-remembered winter of 1906-07

by HUGH MacDONALD

THE winter of 1906-07 was very severe. It was very long and very cold, and there was much snow. The windows in the houses and stables on our homestead were coated thick with frost all winter long, which lasted well on into April. That was the winter during which a homesteader was found frozen to death not far from his home. He was the only one, however, that I can recall who died from freezing in that part of the country during the homesteading days.

During that winter the low sod buildings were completely drifted over many times. From our door to the top of the snow bank, was six steps high. The steps were cut out of the hard drifted snow. The drifts were, in fact, hard enough to support a team of horses and sleigh. All of the doors were made to swing in so that they would always open; and many times, when a bad storm had blown itself out, the only part of the stable that would remain visible was the ventilator. Sometimes, in fact, that was the only entrance the man could use to get inside the barns to take care of the stock, because naturally it took some time to dig the snow away.

During that winter there were three extra people staying with us, a bachelor neighbor who worked for us, and two relatives. Water for the stock had to be hauled for a considerable distance. The oxen were always used for this purpose, because an ox will drink half a barrel at a time, and if they were taken to the waterhole it would save hauling, if they drank their fill there. They seldom did, however: they would just stick their muzzles in, get them wet, shake their heads, run their tongue into one nostril and then the other, and that would be the extent of their drink. Of course it was cold, but when the water finally did get home—probably three barrels hauled on a stone boat right into the stable—those oxen would turn around and drink nearly a barrel between them. Sometimes the men would throw large chunks of snow in for the horses, if they were hard pressed, but this was not often necessary.

At anywhere from 20 to 50 degrees below zero outside, the inside of the house would get very cold and freeze in the night. One morning an uncle of mine was a very disgusted man. His moustache and whiskers were frozen together so that he could not open his mouth. When the cold was very severe, the frost in the frame part of the house would produce sounds like rifle shots. Actually, the nails were being pulled out, and these would have to be driven back in again next summer.

More than one man owed his life during that winter to the sagacity of his horse. One homesteader in our part of Saskatchewan left on a beautiful winter morning to go for a load of wood. By mid-day the skies had produced a howling blizzard, and if it had not been for his horses, he might not have reached home alive.

Jack, knowing that his wife was home alone, with very little wood, that anyway there was no place to go for shelter, and having plenty of horse sense himself, tied up the lines, told the horses to get-up and left the rest to them. He walked and rode, by turns, but never interfered with his team, being only careful never to take his hands off his load. He went through hours and hours of a white swirling storm in which there could be no sense of direction, because the wind blew from every direction at once. So bad was it that it was nearly impossible to breathe.

After what seemed an eternity his horses stopped. He gave them a little time to rest and told them to go on, but they refused to go farther. He walked to their heads and saw just a few feet ahead a darker spot in the everlasting white. Unhitching, he took the horses by the halter and led them toward the dark spot, which turned out to be a sod stable. Imagine his relief and his joy, when, after he got the door open and had led the team inside, he found that it was his own stable that the faithful brutes had taken him to.

Pulling off the harness and feeding them, he tied sufficient lines and ropes together to reach the house. Then, tying one end to the stable door and taking the other in his hand, he tried for the house, which he knew would be somewhere within the radius of his line. Home sweet home! No king's palace ever looked grander to a king than that old sod shanty did to Jack. It was well past midnight when he found it, but imagine his surprise the next morning when the storm had blown itself out, to find a load of wood sitting on top of the henhouse, which had been completely drifted over until only the ventilator was showing. The horses had taken the most direct way home.

ONE winter evening, when our new storekeeper was coming home from town with a load of goods for his store, a bad blizzard sprang up shortly before he got as far as our place. My father wanted him to stay with us, but his own place was not far off and he thought he could make it all right. When he had started, father lit the lantern and ran it up a pole kept in the yard for that purpose.

It was not very long until the storekeeper was back, having decided to turn around and backtrack before it was too late to see his own trail. Shortly afterwards we were all sitting down to supper, when the door flew open and a very angry man came in complaining that it was a low down trick to call to a person out in a storm and then to quit before they were safely in. It took some time before it dawned on the others just what had happened. They then realized that it was the storekeeper who had been answering him, and not knowing that anyone else was out in the storm, had thought it was Dad calling. V

Forward With Alberta

Continued from page 13

"the best crop I ever saw." Farmers joked that there wasn't room between the stooks to drive into the fields. The nearby town of Oyen was covered with granaries. Wheat spilled out onto the streets.

BUT even with such promises of plenty, Wes couldn't see his future there. His heart was on something else, and that year he moved to Edmonton, where he soon became foreman of the grounds at the University. Then, by August, 1916, he had answered another call. War was raging overseas. He saw the free world in mortal danger. He rented his farm, joined the army, and was soon overseas. The bitterest personal blow from the war was the loss of his brother Sam, who, only a few days before the armistice was signed, was killed in France.

Before going overseas, Wes had married the pretty daughter of another Irishman, Wm. Daley, a dairy farmer at Clover Bar, near Edmonton. The new Mrs. Hosford was born in the west. Her father, already there at the time of the Riel Rebellion, could well remember carrying his rifle on his horse, as he plowed the fields during those anxious days. Now, with the war over, the young couple determined to build their own dairy farm.

The soil at Edmonton was deep and black. Sufficient rainfall promised good grass. The city itself was surging toward a population of 60,000. It was touted as the gateway to the unknown northland. Wes saw it as an ideal location for their dairy farm. With assistance from the Soldiers' Settlement Board, he bought a quarter-section of land for \$50 per acre, added four grade cows, and was ready to go.

But again he was disappointed. The cows gave only a few pounds of milk daily. Then fate took another turn. His father, who was also dairying at Edmonton, phoned to say he had located "the best milk cow in Alberta." Wes went to see her, was promised that she would give 80 pounds of milk a day, and gave \$200 for the animal. The former owner threw in the scales

he used to weigh her milk and the young dairyman was elated when his new cow gave almost as much milk as his other four cows combined.

"This is it," he thought. "Good cows are the answer." He bought two more, one a purebred for \$300, and another, a grade, for \$160. He recorded the feed they ate, valued it and the milk they produced. Milk was selling at \$4 per cwt., he figured that he netted \$400 from the pair that year. He was on his way.

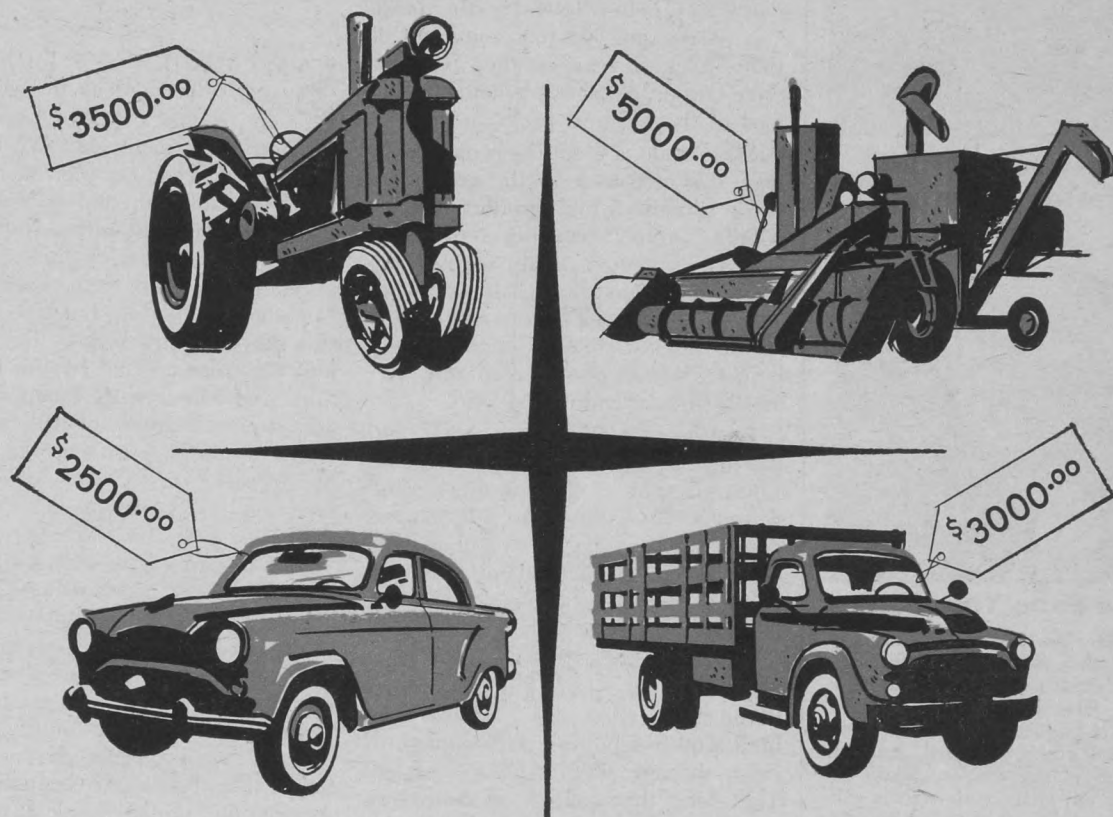
Until then, the history of dairying in Alberta had been hectic at best. Before 1919, milk prices were

as unpredictable as those of most farm crops. To combat this, Wes and other dairymen that year, formed the Edmonton District Milk Producers' Association. Supported by milk shippers, it negotiated price with the Edmonton City Dairy, the city's only milk distributor.

It was early proof to Wes Hosford, who has been active in the Association since its birth in 1919, and who has served both as president and secretary, that a man's time is well spent working for his community or his organization.

To keep his farm competitive, Wes Hosford was striving to grow more

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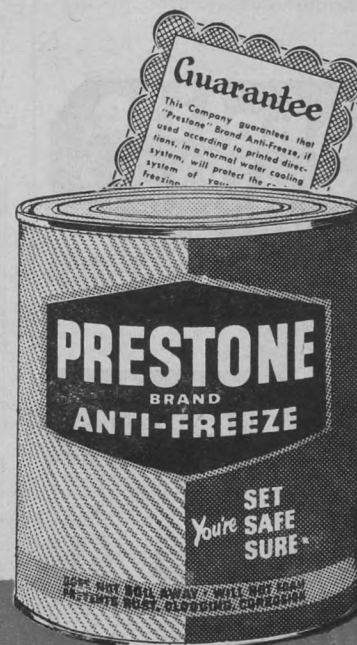
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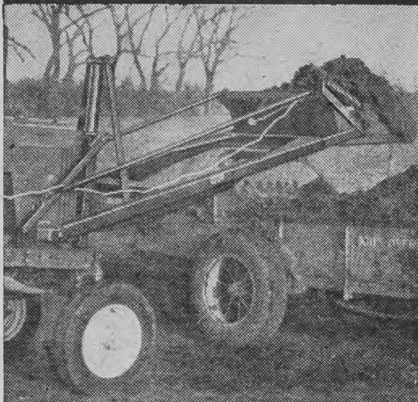
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The Country Guide Goes National

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feed on his land. He had reduced the number of acres in fallow, to enable him to grow more grass. Now he built a tower silo, and grew sunflowers to fill it. This proved a backbreaking job, and in four years he gave it up. A windstorm twisted the silo over, to write finis to that unfortunate venture.

HOWEVER, the advent of forage harvesters provided another chance to save silage for winter feeding. A trench silo was cut out four years ago, and green feed and grass packed into it. It came out sweet and palatable, and Wes was able to abandon brewers' grains in the milking ration. It was an important step in the battle with land and weather to save more and better feed for the herd. Two years ago, 800 tons came out of that silo. Last year, another 700 tons were cured. Silage has become a vital part of the Hosford program.

Meanwhile, a cropping program has been designed to meet the needs of a ready silo and a high-producing herd. Alfalfa, brome, creeping red fescue and sweet clover were sending up good yields on about half the land. The other half was in oats and barley. It was his goal to feed an expanding herd from their own limited acreage—one section of cultivated land.

By now, son Bill was married, and sharing the farm management responsibilities. Another shrewd, quick mind was at work on the farm. Bill, like his dad, regarded dairying as a challenge. "It's a challenge to improve our methods, but it could be drudgery, if it meant work alone."

The two Hosfords heard of a grazing system by which grass is carried to the cattle in the yard. Last year they built a 60-foot bunker, wide enough to drive through with a load of silage. That done, they could keep their cows in the shade of the yard during the summer, cut hay with a forage harvester, and haul it to them. Here is the way they sum up the results so far:

"We got twice as much feed from each acre of grass," they said. "We could feed alfalfa without the cattle bloating. We are also sure that the cattle give more milk; and they can't punch up the pasture in wet weather." The major weakness of the system is that if the forage harvester breaks down they are in real trouble.

Now milking 50 to 60 cows the year round, they need still more feed. They have been dressing the land with

commercial fertilizer, as well as manure, for 15 years, but limited it to their spring crops. Last year they decided to carry this further. Now they are trying it on grass land and fall stubble, too. Last fall, they put 150 pounds of nitroprills to the acre on a stand of 90 per cent brome. In another trial, they applied the fertilizer from an aeroplane. In the middle of June this year, they measured the first results. The fertilized piece stood 27

inches high, while the other stood only 13 inches.

They carried the trials to the feedlot, too. When they switched from feeding the unfertilized brome to the fertilized grass, milk production increased by 1½ cans in 3½ days. Another change in ration from alfalfa to straight brome, caused production to slump from 24½ cans to 21 cans per day. These observations suggest further changes being considered. V

Farmers' Movement Day Celebrated

Historic occasion in 1901 marked by the unveiling of a national, commemorative cairn

SASKATCHEWAN'S Jubilee Year was celebrated at Indian Head, on August 19, by a special Farmers' Movement Day Celebration. Not only was the occasion marked by the attendance of, and speeches by, a number of outstanding individuals who have achieved distinctive places in Canadian farm organization and Canadian public life, but the occasion was especially marked by the unveiling of a cairn erected by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, in recognition of the achievements resulting from the organization of The Territorial Grain Growers' Association in November, 1901, at Indian Head.

The inscription on the cairn reads: "In November, 1901, homesteaders of this area met on Dewdney Avenue, to discuss improvements in grain shipping and marketing. This meeting resulted in the calling of a general convention of the farmers of the prairies on 1st February, 1902, and the founding of The Territorial Grain Growers' Association, under the leadership of W. R. Motherwell and John Millar. This was the first attempt at co-operative enterprise among the farmers of western Canada, and resulted in a constant advance in the development of food resources, trade and commerce."

The celebration was sponsored not only by the Saskatchewan Golden Jubilee Committee and the Historic Sites and Monuments Board, but also by the Saskatchewan Farmers' Union, United Grain Growers Limited, the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, Federated Co-operatives Limited, and the Saskatchewan Federation of Agriculture.



Latest major move for the Hosfords is feedlot feeding. Cows are kept off the pastures and are given fresh-cut feed night and morning.

despite the general harvesting, which kept many people away, that the actual unveiling of the cairn was performed by little Shannon Motherwell, great-granddaughter of the late Hon. W. R. Motherwell, first president of The Territorial Grain Growers' Association, who was himself the first minister of agriculture in Saskatchewan, and who served as minister of agriculture for Canada from 1926 to 1930.

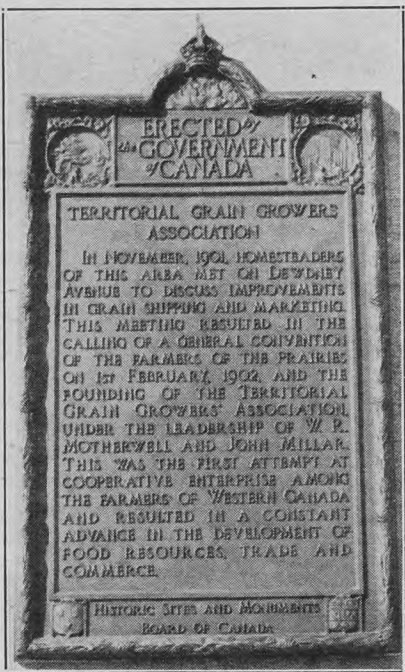
Because of the occasion, and the fact that this year is the Jubilee celebration of the creation of the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta in 1905, it was entirely fitting that honor should be done to the pioneer organizers of 1901, from whose efforts have stemmed practically all of the prairie farm organizations that have since developed. Nevertheless, for the purpose of the chronology that follows—prepared in this form in the belief that many readers may wish to keep it for

future reference—it is worth noting that 1901 was not the first occasion on which prairie farmers attempted to organize for the relief of their man-made afflictions. Doubtless, if any, may refer to Professor Arthur S. Morton's painstaking and authoritative study, entitled "History of Prairie Settlement," in Volume II of Canadian Frontiers of Settlement, as a reliable source of information.

1881-83. Organization of the Farmers Union, similar to organizations in the Mississippi Valley, as a revolt against the influence of big financial interests.

—In December, 1883, the Manitoba and North-West Farmers' Union held a convention in Winnipeg, following a Brandon meeting on November 26, and supported by meetings of farmers at Emerson, Portage la Prairie, Nelsonville, Manitou and other places.

—A Settlers' Union formed at The Ridge, east of Prince Albert, Sask.,



The commemorative cairn erected at Indian Head carries this inscription.

and modelled after local branches of The Farmers' Union.

1884. The Farmers' Union against Dominion policies generally, throughout Manitoba. Extremists favored a declaration of independence for Manitoba, or union with the United States, or even armed revolt, and supported Louis Riel in the early stages of the Riel uprising.

1885. Three hundred delegates attended the annual convention of The Farmers' Union, on March 4. The organization was soon in disfavor and disintegrated.

1891. The Canadian Farmers' Alliance (really the Patrons of Industry, an importation from the United States) introduced into Manitoba at Portage la Prairie. A provincial association formed by the end of the year.

1892. One hundred sub-associations claimed for the Alliance, at the annual meeting, at Brandon, February 24.

1894. The Alliance had established an organ, the Patron's Advocate; acquired an elevator at Boissevain; opened a co-operative mail order store at Portage la Prairie, under the name "The Patron's Commercial Union."

1895. Membership of the Alliance was 5,000, in 330 Patrons' lodges.

Movement extended to The North-West Territories.

1896. Patrons of Industry attempted to form a political party at the Dominion elections. No western candidates elected.

1898. The Rev. James M. Douglas, at Moosomin, an Independent Liberal for East Assiniboia, intimately related to, and with the support of the Patrons, introduced a bill at Ottawa in February to secure the farmer's right to load wheat directly into cars, from flat warehouses. Failing to pass, it was re-introduced in 1899, but broadened to include inspection of grain storage and shipment by government officers. Led to Royal Grain Commission of 1899 and this to the Manitoba Grain Act, 1900.

1901. A "wheat blockade," resulting from plenty of moisture, improved farming, and increased immigration, led to an abundant harvest which the railways could not handle, especially in the Moosomin-Regina territory. John A. Millar, secretary, Indian Head Farmers' Society, called a meeting at Indian Head, in November. W. R. Motherwell and Peter Dayman, both of Abernethy, called a second meeting on December 2, at Indian Head.

1902. On January 2, a constitution was adopted and branches encouraged. On February 12, the first convention was held (12 branches already organized) of The Territorial Grain Growers' Association.

—Grain Act amended and Car Order Book established.

1903. Manitoba Grain Growers' Association organized.

1905. Sintaluta local agitated for a farmers' grain company.

1906. The Grain Growers' Grain Company formed.

—The Alberta Farmers' Association formed, which became the third provincial unit in the grain growers' movement.

1907. Executive officers of farmers' organizations in the three prairie provinces first came together as an inter-provincial council.

1908. Grain Growers' Grain Company began publication of The Grain Growers' Guide, in June.

1909. January 14, the Alberta Farmers' Association and the Canadian Society of Equity amalgamated at Edmonton, under the name United Farmers of Alberta.

—The Canadian Council of Agriculture formed by the inter-provincial council of western organizations and the Dominion Grange, then the strongest farmers' organization existing in Ontario.

1910. Manitoba Government announced policy of building interior public elevators.

1911. Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company formed.

1912. The Manitoba Government leased its elevators to the Grain Growers' Grain Company.

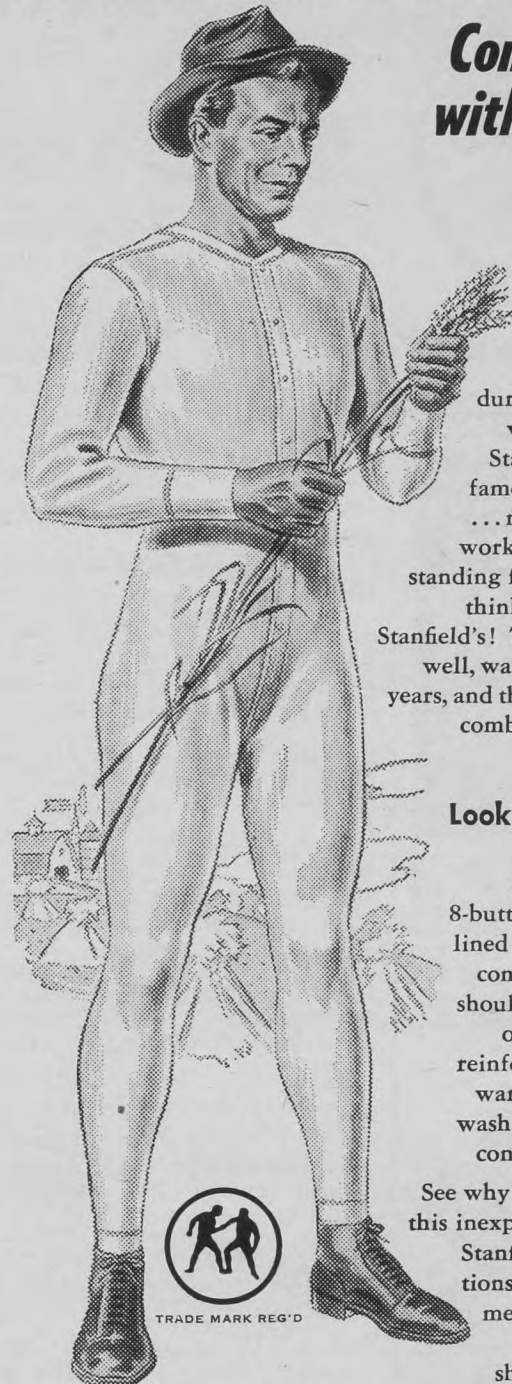
—The Grain Growers' Grain Company leased a large terminal elevator at Fort William.

1913. The Agricultural Co-operative Associations Act passed at Ottawa.

—Grain Growers' Export Company formed.

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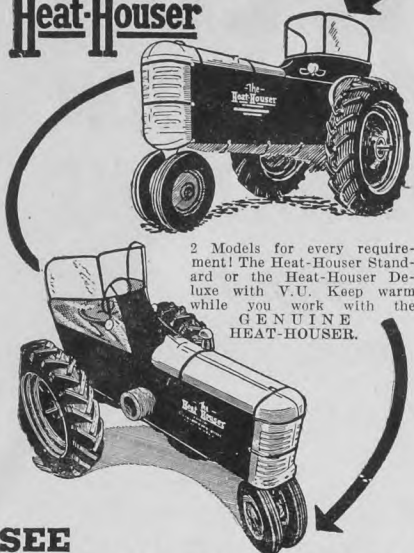
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BUDGIES WANTED

Will pay cash for baby and older Budgies. Write stating quantity, age and price—to Box 306, The Country Guide, Winnipeg 2, Manitoba.



Premier T. C. Douglas of Saskatchewan welcomes guests to the Farmers' Movement Day celebration. Seated guests and speakers, front row (l. to r.) Hon. C. A. Dunning, Senator T. A. Crerar, Hon. Edmond Prefontaine, Rt. Hon. J. G. Gardiner; Mrs. Violet McNaughton (extreme right, back row).

—The Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Company formed.

1914. Women's Section, Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association formed, with Mrs. Violet McNaughton as president.

—S.G.G.A. established a Trading Department.

1915. One hundred and seventy-three associations incorporated under the Agricultural Co-operative Associations Act by the end of the year.

1917. The Grain Growers' Grain Company and The Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Co. amalgamated to form United Grain Growers Limited.

—The Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company built a terminal elevator at Port Arthur.

1918. United Grain Growers Securities Company formed, to counteract abuses in land sales.

1919. Mrs. Violet McNaughton elected the first woman member of the Canadian Council of Agriculture.

—Canada's first wheat board—appointed by the Union Government. Operated 1919-20.

—The Farmers' Government elected in Ontario. E. C. Drury, Crown Hill, premier.

1920. The Manitoba Grain Growers' Association changed its name in January to the United Farmers' of Manitoba.

1921. The Saskatchewan Farmers' Union organized.

—Progressive Party active in Dominion general election. Elected 65 members.

1923. Canadian Council of Agriculture discussed voluntary wheat pooling, which was supported by the S.G.G.A., the U.F.A., and the U.F.M.

—Aaron Sapiro invited to Canada by the Saskatchewan Farmers' Union.

—Alberta Wheat Pool formed, October 29.

1924. Saskatchewan Wheat Pool formed.

—Manitoba Wheat Pool formed.

—In this and the next two or three years, most of the Manitoba Government elevators purchased by U.G.G.

1927. Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association and the Saskatchewan Farmers' Union in Saskatchewan

amalgamated, under the name United Farmers of Canada (Saskatchewan Section).

—The United Farmers of Canada (Manitoba Section) organized and became a provincial body Aug. 9.

—Manitoba Government disposed of the last of its country elevators.

1928. Provincial Co-operative Association organized in Saskatchewan, at Saskatoon, in January.

—United Farmers of Canada (Manitoba Section) amalgamated with the United Farmers of Manitoba, Jan. 10.

—Saskatchewan Co-operative Conference organized January 19.

1929. Saskatchewan Co-operative Wholesale Society incorporated.

1931. Canadian Council of Agriculture disbanded.

1932. United Farmers of Canada supported the Farmer-Labor group politically.

1933. First attempt to operate an international wheat agreement failed.

1935. The Canadian Chamber of Agriculture organized at Toronto, in November.

—British Columbia Chamber of Agriculture formed December 19.

—The Consumers Refinery, Regina, organized.

—Canadian Wheat Board established under the Bennett Government, and reorganized by the incoming Liberal Government.

1936. Alberta Co-operative Council organized.

1939. The name of The Canadian Chamber of Agriculture was changed to The Canadian Federation of Agriculture.

—United Farmers of Canada (Alberta Section) organized.

—The United Farmers of Manitoba became The Manitoba Federation of Agriculture, in June.

1940. Alberta Co-operative Council became the Alberta Federation of Agriculture, January 9, to take in all types of farmer-owned and farmer-controlled organizations.

—Canadian Co-operative Implements Ltd., incorporated.

1941. British Columbia Chamber of Agriculture became The British Columbia Federation of Agriculture in July.

1943. Wheat Board marketing was made compulsory in September.

—Alberta Farmers' Union organized.

1944. The Saskatchewan Co-operative Wholesale Society and the Consumers Refinery amalgamated as Saskatchewan Federated Co-operatives Limited.

1946. First organizational meeting of the Manitoba Farmers' Union at Gilbert Plains, September 28.

—The four-year Canada-U.K. Wheat Agreement began.

—The first world-wide conference of farmers held in May, at Church House, Westminster, London, England.

1947. The International Federation of Agricultural Producers established by formal resolution of farmer representatives from 13 nations, meeting in The Netherlands.

1948. First annual provincial convention, Manitoba Farmers' Union, on March 5, at Portage la Prairie, Man.

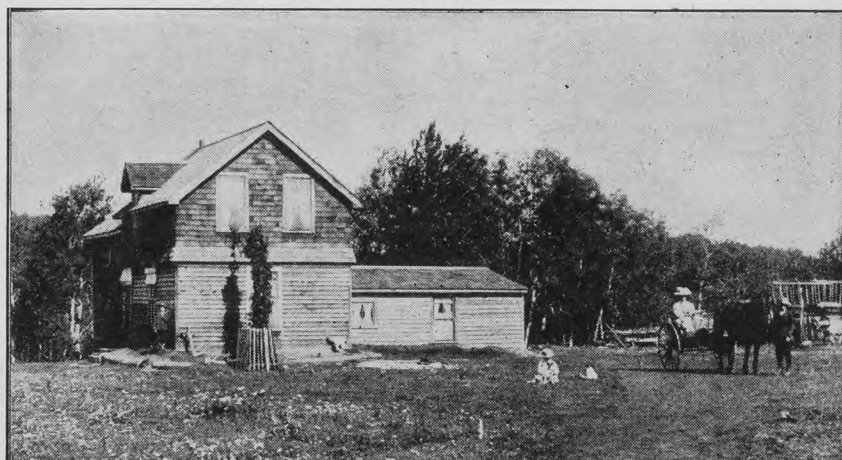
—United Farmers of Alberta and the Alberta Farmers' Union amalgamated under the name Farmers' Union of Alberta.

1949. The second International Wheat Agreement (four years) began.

1951. Manitoba Farmers' Union reorganization, January, at Portage la Prairie.

1953. Third International Wheat Agreement (three years) began.

1955. Saskatchewan Federated Co-operatives Limited and the Manitoba Co-operative Wholesale Limited amalgamated in January, as Federated Co-operatives Ltd.



The home of James Gibbon, the first man (1865) to take up land in the Edmonton district. Note the two-wheeled gig.

The Country Boy and Girl

"Large streams from little mountains flow,
Tall oaks from little acorns grow."

YES, you can bring an oak tree right into your living room to enjoy during the winter months—in miniature form, of course. Gather a few acorns this fall to plant in sand and you will find they will grow into lovely green shoots which will gladden your heart and make a distinctive foliage for the Christmas season.

There are some points to watch for successful planting of acorns in sand. After you have gathered the acorns do not leave them lying around to dry out but get them planted quickly. Place them in a bowl of coarse sand and plant them nose down with the flat bottom side up. Keep the sand very wet, with water sometimes even covering the sand. The first shoots should appear about December. By mid-February your miniature forest should be at its best with some shoots about seven inches tall. In April and May their leaves will turn brown and fall but very soon your "oak" is ready to send out new shoots again.

Ann Sankey

Summer's End

*In leaf-mold lie the flowers of spring,
And five feet high,
Dark shaggy scarlet dahlias swing
Against the sky.*

*The loaded crab trees drip with fruit,
And on the ground
Above the mellowed windfall loot
Gay wasps abound.*

*The hard green berries of the rowan
Are turning red.
In matted tangles the vine has grown
Across the shed.*

*Seeds tumble into rutted tracks
And sun-baked clay.
While summer through a thousand
cracks
Has slipped away.*

—EFFIE BUTLER.

Apple Dumpling

by Mary Grannan

DAVEY shook his head from side to side. His mother looked at him with a twinkle in her eye. She knew he would change his mind before the time came. "But why don't you want to go to school?" she asked. "It's a very exciting experience to go to school for the very first time. Everything will be new to you, and besides that, you'll learn things."

"I don't need to learn anything," said the little boy. "I know things. I know where the squirrel lives in the woods. I know where the robin built his nest. I know why a cowboy wears a kerchief, and I know why a rabbit has long ears."

Mrs. Green nodded her head. "They are all very nice things to know, but don't you want to read, write, spell and count?"

Davey shook his head again. "I don't need to do those things," he said. "You read to me, and when I go errands the man at the store counts the money. Why should I waste my time on reading, counting and spelling, when there are so many nice things to do? I'm going to the woodland right now, to play with the rabbits. Could I do that, if I went to school? No."

Davey left his mother, climbed the back fence at the foot of the garden, and went across the field to the woodland. He knew where the rabbit had

his burrow and went directly to it. He had expected Whitey Rabbit to be on the doorstep waiting for him, but there was no sign of him anywhere about.

"Whitey! Whitey!" Davey called.

The red squirrel on the low branch of the pine tree leapt closer to the little boy and said: "He isn't home."

Davey frowned. "But he knew I was coming to play with him. I told him I was coming."

"He didn't forget," said the squirrel. "He left a note for you. It's pinned to the briar bush."

Davey turned his eyes to the briar bush and saw a tiny bit of white paper fluttering on one of its branches. He took the note and hurriedly put it into his pocket.

"Aren't you going to read it?" asked the squirrel.

Davey blushed and was about to say he'd read it later, but being a truthful little boy, he said, "I can't read it."

"Tch! Tch!" said the squirrel scornfully, "give it to me. I'll read it for you."

Davey passed the note to the squirrel, who read, "Dear Davey, I am very sorry to disappoint you, but I cannot play today. Our school opened this morning. Why don't you come to school and visit us. We'd love to have you. Go to the signboard at the north side of the glen. Follow directions from there. The password is 'apple dumpling.' From your friend, Whitey." The squirrel folded the letter and handed it back to Davey.

"I didn't know rabbits went to school," he said.

"Of course rabbits go to school. They don't want to grow up stupid. The north side of the glen is that way," added Mrs. Squirrel, pointing. Then like a red flash she disappeared through the branches of the pine.

Davey went to the glen, and found the signboard. He had hoped there would be an arrow, pointing the way, but there were words and numbers on the board, and Davey couldn't read them. An inquisitive crow flew down and lit on the board. "What's the matter, Davey?" he asked.

"I'm trying to find Whitey's school," he said.

"What's the matter with your eyes," said the crow. "The directions are

right there. 'Cross the glen to the pine grove. Stop at the rock pile. Count 15 pine trees east, and you will find the sentinel who will let you by if you give him the password'."

Davey was grateful that he didn't have to tell Mr. Crow that he couldn't have read the sign, himself. He hurried to the rock pile. And then he discovered that he couldn't count to 15. But he did know where the east was. The sun was coming from the east. He went toward the sun. Suddenly he heard a rabbit say, "Stop where you are." It was the sentinel.

Davey smiled happily. He had found the gateway to Whitey's school. "I'm a friend of Whitey's," he said, "I came to visit his school."

"How do I know you're a friend of Whitey's?" asked the sentinel.

"Because I'm telling you," said Davey, indignantly.

"Give me the password," said the sentinel.

"Apple dumpling," said Davey.

"Spell it," said the sentinel.

Davey blushed for the second time since he'd left home that morning. "I can't spell it," he admitted, "but I am a friend of Whitey's."

The sentinel rabbit wiggled his ears in disdain. "Whitey's friends

aren't stupid. You don't pass until you spell 'apple dumpling'."

Davey turned and ran all the way home. He went into the pantry, where his mother was peeling apples. "Mum," he said, "I've changed my mind. I am going to go to school. I want to learn to read, count and spell. A fellow can't seem to get anywhere unless he can spell."

"Very true," agreed Davey's mother, wondering what had happened to the little boy in the woodland.

Davey eyed the fruit on the counter. "Are you making an apple dumpling, Mum?"

"No," said Mrs. Green, "an apple pie."

"If you were making an apple dumpling, how would you spell it?" asked Davey.

"A-p-p-l-e d-u-m-p-l-i-n-g," said Mrs. Green.

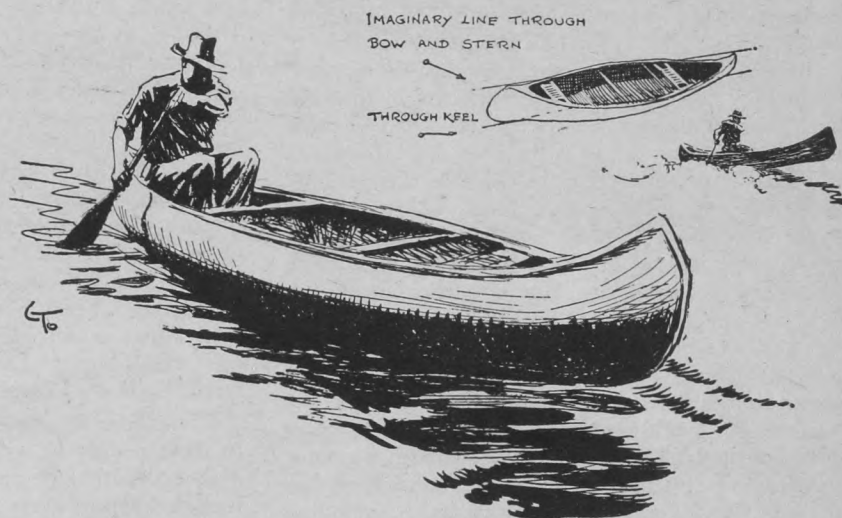
Davey repeated the letters over and over. "I know it," he laughed. "Good-bye, Mum!" He dashed from the house.

"But where are you going, Dear," called his mother.

Davey paused long enough to answer, "I'm going to show a certain sentinel that Whitey Rabbit's friends aren't stupid."

Sketch Pad Out-of-Doors

No. 43—by CLARENCE TILLENIUS



GLIDING over still water in a light canoe is a sensation that must come pretty close to flying. The undulating motion and the way it shifts gently in response to your every movement is something hard to describe.

True, if you are not used to boats it is not difficult to upset. In this way it is not unlike a bicycle, until you learn to ride. Once accustomed to using a canoe, you balance it so instinctively that one begins to wonder how you ever thought it "tippy." Take care, though. Even the best canoe man in the world may sometime have a misfortune and roll over.

A canoe is even more difficult to draw. The lines are so deceiving on account of the sharp up curve of the bow gradually swelling toward the center and the subtle curving of the sides down to the flattened bottom.

To judge with the eye the exact placing of the seats and the thwarts is not too difficult since that is a measurement over a straight line from bow to stern.

Perhaps it will help—no matter from what angle you look at the canoe—if you imagine a line drawn through the bow and stern straight down the center and another one through the keel. The one will always come directly under the other when the canoe is upright. Remember also that when the canoe is in the stream the water follows around the contour of the sides—if you are looking down on it from above this may be extremely tricky to get. In fact, no one can tell you how to draw a canoe. The way to learn it is to stand in front of one and draw it from all angles until you know that you are getting it right.

THE *Country* GUIDE

with which is incorporated

THE NOR'-WEST FARMER and FARM and HOME
Serving the farmers of Western Canada Since 1882

VOL. LXXIV WINNIPEG, SEPTEMBER, 1955 No. 9

Fifty Years

SEPTEMBER 1, of this year, marked the end of the first 50 years in the life of Saskatchewan and Alberta. Both provinces have recognized 1955 as a year of Jubilee celebrations. This issue of *The Country Guide* is, therefore, our tribute to the pioneers of both provinces. We feel that those of the pioneers who are still living, and the descendants of those who are not, have a right to expect it of us; and we also feel that we may offer it as of right. The fact is that the parent organization of *The Country Guide* was conceived in Saskatchewan, and though born in Manitoba the year after the newer provinces were formed, was united with Alberta in 1917. Thus, more truly than any other publication now existing in western Canada, *The Country Guide* is the child of that occasion in 1901 which was celebrated so enthusiastically on August 19, at Indian Head, as Farmers' Movement Day. The *Country Guide* has always been farmer-owned and proud of it.

Elsewhere in this issue we announced a further step in our own growth and progress, and regard it as a happy coincidence that it could appear this year, and in this issue.

The desire to gain experience and to progress must have been a dominant characteristic of man from very earliest times. To gain either, however, is to be so greatly dependent on the circumstances of the age, the year, or the moment, that the extent to which any unit of society can regulate its own experience or degree of progress is fairly limited.

The 50 years that have just ended have been momentous years. They have witnessed the greatest increase in material prosperity that the world has ever seen. They have also included the two most disastrous wars in history. A former U.S. secretary of agriculture said, in the late twenties, that already there had been more progress in the science and technology of agriculture since the turn of the century, than in the previous 7,500 years. Even more remarkable progress has been made since that time.

The two provinces have shared in this change, and each has developed an individuality suitable to its circumstances. Each has developed a type of government unique in Canadian history. Each has pioneered social policies, Alberta particularly in the field of education; and Saskatchewan in health services, as well as by the very special encouragement it has given to co-operative activity. Less suited to industrial development, Saskatchewan has become the world's greatest producer of low-cost wheat of the highest quality. Alberta, with a greater diversity of soil and other natural resources, has shared Canada's population growth, including urban population, as well as in the postwar development of our natural resources.

It is also significant that both provinces have been well served by excellent colleges of agriculture at provincial universities; by the agriculture departments of government; and by the staffs of the federal agricultural agencies and experimental stations distributed throughout their broad areas. No small part of the progress of farming in the two provinces is traceable to these agencies and their combined influence.

Both provinces were fortunate as to the time they were brought into existence, and five prosperous years followed. Since then, the people of both provinces have proved their ability to adjust themselves to sometimes violent economic and climatic changes in creditable fashion. To a greater extent than in Alberta, progress in Saskatchewan has been conditioned by the fact that necessity is the mother of invention. Nevertheless, her agricultural production is second only to that of Ontario, and on occasion has exceeded that province. Both Saskatchewan and Alberta may, in fact, be justly proud of what

they have achieved during the first half century, different though their paths may have run. It seems a fair likelihood that the next 50 years may deal even more happily with Saskatchewan, and equally well with Alberta. V

Farm Organizations

ALTHOUGH farm organizations were not unknown prior to 1900 in the prairie provinces, it is customary to date the birth of such organizations from 1901, when the homesteaders along the line of the Canadian Pacific railway, from the Manitoba boundary to Regina, were at a serious economic disadvantage and began to fight for their rights. Justification for this dating stems from the fact that the Territorial Grain Growers' Association not only began to get results immediately, but lived to spawn a very large family of other organizations over the next 25 years.

The filling up of prairie land by homesteaders brought new elements into Canadian government. Even during the early 80's,—a late transition period between fur-trading and agriculture,—the Farmers' Unions of that day threatened independence, secession, and even armed revolt, because of excessive railway charges, an oppressive tariff, and all of the factors which tended to keep them on a mere subsistence level. In the 90's, the Patrons of Industry repeated the earlier demands of the Farmers' Unions for a lower customs tariff, the Hudson Bay Railway, provincial banks, farmer-owned grain elevators and flour mills, and farmer representation on the grain standards board. The government of the day had to learn to appreciate the difficulties of the homesteaders; and it is to the credit of the Territorial Grain Growers' Association that it materially assisted in this process. The creation of the two provinces in 1905 brought government closer to the people.

The tremendous expansion of the 1901-1910 period was accompanied by a succession of relatively good crop years, which, under a combination of railway and elevator monopoly, led to local, or regional, grain surpluses. Almost immediately after its enactment the Manitoba Grain Act of 1900 required amendment, and the Car Order Book was introduced in 1902. Shortly thereafter, the Winnipeg Grain Exchange became the focus of attack. This led to the formation of the Grain Growers' Grain Company in 1906, and in rapid succession to the formation of an inter-provincial council of western farm organizations in 1907, the creation of the Canadian Council of Agriculture in 1909, and in the same year, the amalgamation of the Canadian Society of Equity and the Alberta Farmers' Association, to form the United Farmers of Alberta. In 1911, the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company was organized, and in 1913, the Alberta Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Association, which by 1917 had amalgamated with the Grain Growers' Grain Company to form United Grain Growers Limited.

From here on, the story is more or less familiar to most people in western Canada. Time brought a diversification of co-operative action, which has included almost every form of co-operative activity, from co-operative farming to burial societies, from credit unions to a co-operative oil refinery, from the co-operative ownership and use of machinery to Canadian Co-operative Implements Limited, even to co-operative insurance, flour mills and sawmills, and a wide variety of marketing activities.

Nationally, the Canadian Federation of Agriculture represents approximately two out of every three farmers in the country, and is well received and respected at Ottawa. Here, again, it is fitting that in the year when the two provinces from which much that is good in farm organization has sprung are celebrating the Jubilee of their political birthdays, the Canadian Federation of Agriculture should be engaged in assessing its past, and formulating its philosophy, its policies and its goals.

A mere listing of organizations is, in itself, not proof of achievement. In this respect, time, under other circumstances, might have served the western farmer less well, or even better. But—

*Life, like a dome of many-colored glass,
Stains the white radiance of Eternity—;*
and we who are alive, live in the midst of life,

with its inconsistencies and its perversities. Our hope must be that those who follow may say of us, as we say today of those whom we follow: They builded better than they knew. V

Real Progress Is Gradual

IN 1871, the Dominion Government formulated its first land settlement policy for the prairie provinces. In the same year the government adopted the American policy of townships six miles square, containing 36 sections of 640 acres each. The first land surveys were likewise begun that year, nearly a century after the beginning of agriculture in Ontario.

If we take this period as the beginning of prairie agriculture, the 84 years which have since intervened may be roughly divided into three periods of 28 years each, 1871-1899, 1899-1927, and 1927-1955. It is becoming increasingly true that the condition of an industry, or an economic group, is paralleled fairly closely by the amount and achievements of organized action within it, and that the progress of the group approximates the progress of organization within it.

During the first of the three periods, farm organization was both sporadic and ineffective. The Farmers' Unions of the '80's floundered on the rock of radicalism; and the Patrons of Industry of the '90's, on that of political action. Neither decade represented a prosperous period. The year 1900, however, ushered in a decade of great expansion, during which wheat production increased from 50 million bushels to 132 million bushels per year. By the end of the second period, again using wheat as a guide to agricultural activity, acreage had increased from 2.4 million acres in 1900, to 22 million acres, and wheat production to 480 million bushels. It was in this period, therefore, which included a period of great expansion, as well as World War I, the depression of the early '20's, and part of the 1925-29 inflationary period, that the Territorial (later, Saskatchewan) Grain Growers' Association rose and fell. It spanned the entire period from 1901 to 1927. This period likewise witnessed the formation of farmer-owned elevator companies in each of the three provinces, the eventual amalgamation of those in Manitoba and Alberta, and in 1923 and 1924, the formation of the Wheat Pools, which, as such, barely continued into the next period. The second period also witnessed the formation of the Canadian Council of Agriculture and its decline, as well as the rise of the Progressive Party and its virtual extinction.

The third period produced the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and the Canadian Wheat Board in the same year (1935); and, spurred by the influence of World War II, led Canadian farmers into a world-wide farm organization, the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (1947). This period has likewise brought an unprecedented development of co-operative organizations in many diverse fields related to agriculture. Adding color to the picture of farm organizations since the early '20's have been the Farmers' Unions, whose dominant theme has invariably been the need for direct farmer membership, coupled with criticism of the part played in the organization of the industry by the farmer-owned commercial organizations. Never the refuge of patient men, the Farmers' Unions have, in the past, generally given way to the greater popularity and utility of moderation.

What we have attempted to demonstrate here is the truth of what the late Lord Passfield (Sidney Webb) once called "the inevitability of gradualness." Gradualness implies change, but in agriculture change comes slowly, and often at the behest of forces outside the industry. If history can teach us anything, it suggests that, except for instances where injustice is clear and widely acknowledged, farmers are moderate minded and difficult to arouse. This, in turn, ought to suggest the greatest practicable measure of unity among farmers and their organizations. Labor today, as never before, is proving the value of unity, but labor's effort has been steady and consistent since the '80's. Time is the great healer and rewarder; and as has happened before and can happen again, men who aspire to impersonate God's angry man, can find the sword of justice blunted in their hands. V



Follow today's trend to linoleum for easy-to-clean kitchens

Dominion Inlaid Linoleum is furnishing easy-to-clean flooring in kitchens—play-rooms, halls and bathrooms, too—all across Canada. And it's also bringing a subtle new type of loveliness into the living, dining and bedrooms of the modern Canadian home.

The trend, today, is *definitely* to floors of Dominion Inlaid Linoleum for *every* room. Why? Simply because no other flooring offers the modern homemaker so much. Its new shades and designs are so very beautiful... so grand to work with when you're creating your own distinctive decorative themes. It needs

so little care... and it stays gorgeous for years even in heavy-traffic areas. It's amazingly *economical* because it's a *permanent* flooring that needs no covering, yet its cost (completely installed) is less than other similar quality floorings—including the conventional wood. And it's truly resilient, so it pampers feet, puts a soothing "damper" on everyday household sounds.

Get illustrated, idea-ful booklets on linoleum, the *trend* flooring, by writing: Dominion Oilcloth & Linoleum Co. Ltd., Home Planning Dept., 2200 St. Catherine St. E., Montreal.

This colourful kitchen is in one of Canada's famous "Trend" Houses. The floor is Marboleum tile. It— or one of the other lovely Dominion Inlaid Linoleums—can bring similar beauty to your home, too.

DOMINION
inlaid
LINOLEUM

COMES IN TILES AND BY-THE-YARD
IN THESE FOUR TYPES...

✓ MARBOLEUM ✓ DOMINION JASPÉ
✓ HANDICRAFT ✓ DOMINION PLAIN

made only in Canada... sold by style-setting
Canadian retailers

Now! - A 49½c Storm Window that protects your family all winter!

New Trans-Kleer Storm Window Goes On in 5 Minutes Without Tools, Hooks, Screws or Nails

Used by U.S. Army in Iceland and Alaska—Now Available to Public

NOW . . . storm windows need not cost you up to \$14.00. American industry has developed a lightweight flexible product that enables you to seal out wintry blasts for only 49½c a window! Imagine it! For pennies per window you can insulate every room in your home! This new wonder material was developed by the Gary, Indiana, Division of the famous REYNOLDS ALUMINUM CORPORATION for use by the U.S. Government during the last World War. It looks like glass yet can't peel off, never chips, shatters or rattles. It's actually flexible like rubber.

This wonder product possesses the tensile strength of over a ton for every square inch! Yet it is crystal-clear, not milky or yellowish like some plastic materials. It weighs less than one-tenth of the lightest glass storm windows developed. Even a very large window comes to under 8 ounces! This amazing new kind of window is not affected by snow, sleet, rain or dampness because it is 100% waterproof. Resists the climate changes—won't crack even at 53 degrees BELOW FREEZING! Even though it costs you only pennies, you can use and re-use it year after year for winter protection and comfort.

Sensational Discovery Used By U.S. Army To Fight Arctic Cold

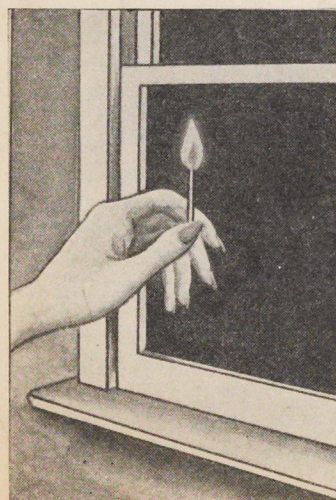
The biggest problems facing American Generals in World War II was how to defend their troops and protect equipment against the ravages of the Arctic winters. The Reynolds Aluminum Company was immediately ordered to build a special plant at Gary and soon millions of yards of this new material were moving out to Canada, Alaska, the Aleutians, Iceland, Greenland and later to the European fronts. Trans-Kleer Reynold could not be purchased for love or money in those critical days. Every last inch went to protect our men, vehicles, ships, planes and weapons. Our boys and guns came first and the public had to wait. Now at last, due to special arrangements with the Gary plant, larger quantities are available for the public.

Trans-Kleer Windows Can Be Installed In 5 Minutes

The installation of Trans-Kleer Storm Windows is simplicity itself. The

MAKE THIS TEST!

On a windy day, hold a lit match inside a closed window. The first gust of wind will blow it out. Now put up your Trans-Kleer window . . . you'll find that a lit match, held inside the window will NOT blow out EVEN IF YOU KEEP YOUR REGULAR WINDOW OPEN!



lady of the house can do it in 5 minutes or less! You need no nails, hooks, screws, or tools. No back-breaking toil! No broken glass to contend with! Cut off required amount, trim to fit your window, large or small, square, round, rectangular—it makes no difference. Then press on the special ADHESO border and your storm window is firmly in place for winter long protection. Cost to you: only pennies per window! And this is a storm window that can really take those wintry gusts! Its tensile strength of over 2,000 pounds per square inch lets it stand up under those fierce winter gales. And it won't rattle or shatter or chip! Yet Trans-Kleer windows, because of the LOW CONDUCTIVITY development of Reynolds engineers, gives you real winter protection, actually helps keep cozy warmth inside, frigid temperatures outside. You save \$100 or more in fuel bills alone—to say nothing of the health protection and downright comfort!

Use Year After Year

With TRANS-KLEER, you have no storing problems. At winter's end just fold away like cloth for the following season—year after year! You can air your room so easily—any time! Simply lift the Adheso border to let in fresh air—then press on and it's sealed tight again! Easy to clean too! No soap or detergent. They come clean with a damp wash rag! It's no wonder that so many home owners, hospitals, public buildings and churches have adopted this new way to fight winter's chills and humidity!

Low First Cost—No Upkeep Cost

TRANS-KLEER comes in rolls 36 inches by 432 inches and costs you only \$4.95—complete with Adheso border! That is enough for 10 medium sized windows—just 49½ cents each! Naturally, smaller windows cost you less while larger ones use more material. In all you receive 108 SQUARE FEET! Imagine it! 108 SQUARE FEET for the rock-bottom price of only \$4.95. Good GLASS storm windows cost from \$7.95 to \$16 or more, depending on size and quality. For ten you'd have to pay from \$79.95 to \$160.00. They're fine if you don't mind the cost and installation time! But if you want to save and get real winter protection, then the sensible buy is TRANS-KLEER! For pennies you enjoy cozy comfort. You save on fuel bills—as much as \$100 in one season. You also get health protection for your entire family. And you need not contend with broken glass, storage problems, installation difficulties! Your Trans-Kleer window is put up in 5 minutes, tops. The entire 10 then are installed in 45 minutes or so! It's simplicity itself! Even a school boy can do it! You save on first cost. And you have no upkeep cost! That's why year after year more and more people—even those who can afford expensive windows—are demanding this economical yet effective way to save fuel, protect health, enjoy winter-long comfort in every room of your house!

Over One Million Sold Last Year

For years, now, demand for this type window has been at fever pitch. Demand always outstripped the supply. Returning G.I.'s told of its amazing qualities. The lucky buyers of the first windows told their neighbors. Last year alone over 1,000,000 were sold, yet the

demand was hardly tapped. Advertising had to be curtailed. Thousands of home owners had to be disappointed. Production has been increased for 1955 but the government gave top priority for the Armed Forces. There will be another scramble for them this year. Plans are for producing about 1,500,000 for civilian use. It is estimated that at least twice as many could be sold, but conversion facilities are strictly limited. In fact, should some unforeseen crisis develop in Korea or Formosa or Indonesia, government priorities might conceivably reduce the available amount to a trickle.

Now You Can Test Trans-Kleer In Your Own Home Without Risk

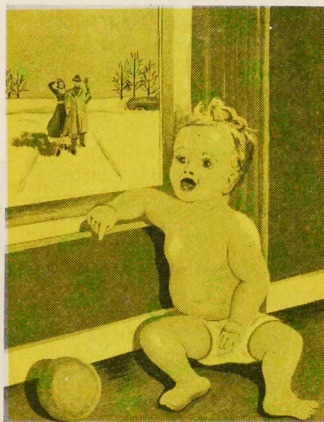
Lots of folks already know about TRANS-KLEER from their neighbors. But if you have never tried them, here's your chance to get them on a HOME TRIAL BASIS. You can't lose a single penny. Mail the coupon below and a 36 by 432 inch roll—108 SQUARE FEET—enough for 10 standard windows will be shipped to you immediately, complete with Adheso Border. Deposit only \$4.95 plus postage with the mail man. Try TWO windows in any room of your home. Test them as you see fit. See for yourself how they seal out drafts. Now compare the temperature—any 25 cent thermometer will do—yes compare the temperature with any other room in your home! See the difference! Feel the difference! Then YOU be the judge! Then if you're not convinced they're every bit as effective as any storm window on the market—if you are not satisfied in EVERY way, keep the TWO windows and return the balance of the material and get your \$4.95 back at once!

To Avoid Disappointment, Order At Once!

Millions of people are reading this ad in hundreds of newspapers and magazines in the United States and Canada. Last year thousands of orders had to be refused. Do not wait until below zero weather comes! Play safe! Rush the coupon now and get your storm windows at once! If you wish to save postage, send money order, cash or cheque for \$4.95 and it will be shipped postage free. Trans-Kleers are sold exclusively by mail and only by:

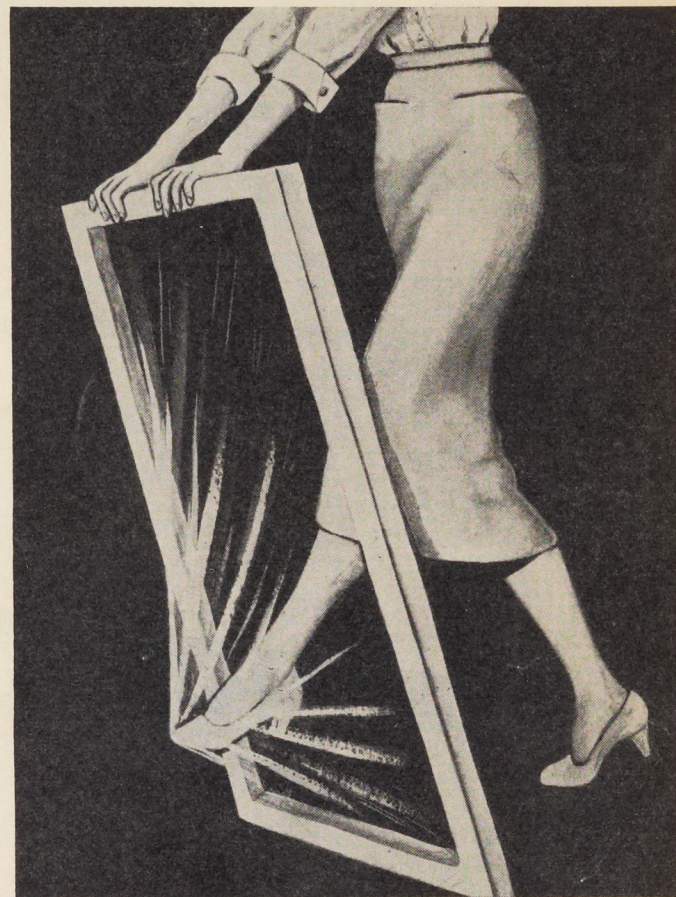
THORESEN LTD.

Dept. 283-K-47
45 St. James St. West
Montreal, P.Q.



Low Cost Health Protection!

WINTER COMFORT! You can hardly see the new TRANS-KLEER storm window—it's wonderfully transparent—but it protects you and your loved ones from winter's cold blasts and humidity. Saves dollars too, in fuel bills! It's your cheapest health insurance. Yet the window illustrated here only costs 49½ cents!



THIS STRANGE NEW STORM WINDOW STRETCHES WITHOUT BREAKING. Imagine a storm window having a tensile strength of over one ton per square inch—yet you can push it with your foot and it stretches! Then it springs right back—undamaged! Developed in the multi-million dollar Gary plant of Reynolds Aluminum Corp. for protecting soldiers and armament in the Far North during World War II. Millions now in use to fight wintry gales in homes and factories throughout Canada and the United States.

ADVICE TO READERS

To Obtain Best Results From Storm Windows

Well built storm windows, whether of glass, thermopane, plastic or Trans-Kleer, can save you many dollars on your fuel bills—if they are well sealed. For best results follow these 5 rules carefully. 1. Check for leaks. 2. Make sure window fits tight. 3. Caulk aluminum type before putting up. 4. Store wood framed windows in dry place to prevent warping. 5. Replace all cracked panes at once.

cannot do with certain other plastic type windows!

Avoid Wild Scramble!

Freezing weather is coming and SOON! Play it safe! Get your supply of Trans-Kleer now! Orders received too late will be returned at once. Rush coupon NOW and avoid disappointment!

No Problems With Trans-Kleer

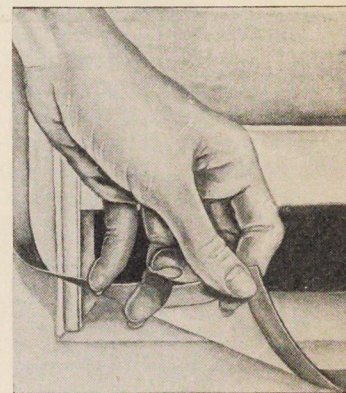
Now, with the development of TRANS-KLEER you have no storage or caulking problems, no shattering of glass, no window panes to replace, no leaks to seal and best of all no hard toil to install and take them off!

Wintry Gales Sealed Out With Adheso Method

The ADHESO border on your Trans-Kleer seals your home in—all winter long! You have no LEAKAGE worries. You enjoy greater warmth. Greater savings. Greater health protection! And all this costs you only pennies!

Lift Adheso Border For Airing

Trans-Kleer Storm Windows permit you to air your rooms simply and easily. You simply lift the Adheso border to let foul stale air out, admit fresh air. Then simply press back into place—it takes one second—and you have insulation again! This you



THORESEN LTD., Dept. 283-K-47
45 St. James St. West
Montreal, P.Q.

RUSH _____ rolls TRANS-KLEER at \$4.95 each, enough for 10 windows or 108 SQUARE FEET, with special ADHESO Border. I will pay \$4.95 plus postage on arrival. This is on a TRIAL basis. I will try TWO without obligation. If not delighted, I will return the balance for my \$4.95 back—no questions asked.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____

PROV. _____

☐ SAVE ALL POSTAGE COSTS by sending cheque, m.o. or cash with this coupon. In that case we pay all postage to your door. Same money-back guarantee, of course!